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SHE MAY OUTLAST
CHARLES. L-O-N-G
LIVE THE QUEEN.
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**MUSIC
TO DIE BY**
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**Why
men love
mean
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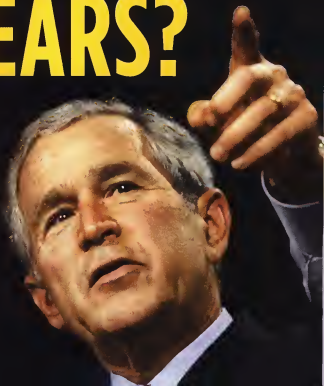
**THE PLOT
TO KILL
THE
LIBERALS**
P.22

MACLEAN'S

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THE WORST PRESIDENT IN 100 YEARS? P.28



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A new essay by Michael Bliss suggests that Canada is as fixated on downsizing as nothing new here—it's one of our most enduring passions.

18 We're pals, really
They're not new recruits and life-long friends. Both are cerebral and well connected, and it appears they want the same job. Who'll win the race?

What's with the back scratches between the Tories, NDP and BQP? "We want to remove the Liberals from the game," said one MP. Is there a conspiracy to destroy the party?

On the day of his funeral, Liberal fundraiser Joe Marzulli once more became the discreet personae cultus he had been before his turn on the spotlight of the Gallery Inquiry a year ago.

Sgt. Edith Grady of the Princess Patricia was the first Canadian soldier to undertake a humanitarian mission. He brought home the body of Pte Robert Connell, the 22-year-old Canadian killed in battle in northern Afghanistan, to be laid to rest in Colborne, N.C.

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Wide defects and debt swelling and support for the United States crumbling abroad, George W. Bush is quickly losing credibility, even among American conservatives. Could he be the worst U.S. president in modern history?

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Paul Gross on why we keep making films no one sees

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Music for the dying is a burgeoning new industry

A pioneering performance by an Arab-Israeli orchestra

Monon gamma, the big problem with the Love

On playing Mother Teresa script notes by Paris Hilton

Tired of casual Fridays, young dandies discover the suit

Why do so many men marry bitchy women?

Caffeinated lip balm. Horrifying, surf shorts

Petar Wabeta Gleditsing, 1945-2004

COVER: HANDEE AGANATHAPATTY/REUTERS. BLACK: GUY LAWRENCE/REUTERS. COURTESY OF THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY, ASTOR LENOX TILDEN FOUNDATION

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Educators in Ireland are testing a new theory that teaching kids to move like a worm for 10 min. a day makes them better at math and reading.

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"Flying" carp infect the shared waters of the Missouri, Illinois and Mississippi rivers—weak-
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She's reached scandal and ruin
as a result of a graceless marriage.
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restraint keeps her young

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Follow Winnipeg rockers, the Attila Band, the band's tour diary blog as they take their Acoustic melodies and sleazy sex'n' lyrics on a chilly trek through eastern Europe. www.madabout.ca/bandatherrun

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GOING TO THE WALL with changes that continue the overhaul of Maclean's

There's no slowing down, even at 100

Small changes can sometimes make a big difference. As part of our overarching efforts to make the new Maclean's as lively and interesting as possible for our readers, there are a number of minor improvements that make their debut in this week's issue. To better balance our in-depth coverage and dramatic visual presentation, there's a bigger, more available design. The layout of the space between the type blocks has been increased, as has the size of the font. We have also fine-tuned the design of our column body type so everything that they strike and open up the closed areas (the corners) of the illustrations. The overall effect of these changes will be to make the pages appear lighter and easier to read, without sacrificing the number of words.

The page grid of the magazine has also been revised to reduce visual clutter. Section tags have moved to the top to keep them from interfering with headlines and pictures. And we have adopted a more uniform set of styles for text display, headlines and

graphics, that will give the magazine a more even, consistent feel.

The "spaced-out" visual look to Maclean's long and distinguished design history, will now be found on the cover and contents page. In coming weeks, it will also return as a distinctive element at the conclusion of articles. In addition, the layout of our News readers' pages has been simplified and made clearer. Gone are the numbers that linked the text and visuals. Photos now appear at the bottom of the page, directly underneath the related story.

These changes are just the latest additions to the myriad of improvements we introduced starting last November as part of an overall redesign. Readers have reacted favorably to our increased content—30 per cent more text—and better presentation. The new mix of interviews, columns and in-depth reporting on national and international news, as well as business and entertainment, has also won kudos from our peers. In coming months, you can expect even more refinements. Maclean's may be 100, but we're not slowing down. ■

MACLEAN'S

100 YEARS OF
CANADIAN HISTORY

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MAIL BAG



THE GOSPEL TRUTH

The next signs of spring and Easter, the annual renewals of the religious and the annual Maclean's cover story questioning the 1861 call to violence in the Bible ("Did it really die on the cross?" Cover, April 3). Let the discussion begin. The democracy that we hold precious, including freedom of the press, originated from Christian principles. How grateful we are to those who we each hold to be the truth without it is of regret.

From Ottawa, Ontario, Ont.

Alternative Jesus historian Michael Bageant's theory that Jesus really didn't die—but seemed—on the cross is a bold statement that was put to rest more than 150 years ago by the most notable critics of the New Testament, David Strauss. Bageant's argument that the Greek words used in the gospel of Mark ("died" and "seemed") indicate a cryptic secret is patently false. Jesus, contrary to Bageant's claim, is a genuine man who can mean, among other things, both sleeping and a dead body, depending on the context. This word is used elsewhere in the New Testament to denote a dead body or corpse (e.g. Matthew 14:33, when it speaks of the burial of the man of whom the Baptist was his disciple). Please is the specific word for "corpse" and is used interchangeably with soul, as the Gospel of Mark shows. What Bageant failed to do is to read that text when that word was employed in the Gospel of Mark; it is after Jesus has died. It is for the very reason that this virtually all New Testament scholars accept Bageant's theory. The death of Jesus is an established fact of history.

Rory Cooke, Toronto

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'Unrest in France isn't just about a job law. People want to be rewarded on merit.'

that the historian was doing anything more than repeating what was going. There is no trace whatsoever of record keeping of the execution of individuals in the past of the empire by the Romans. It is time to embrace the full Christ myth as all in saving grace.

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a country this size. When we are asking for—

that Canada Post let the public have more

information and open about post office and

plant closures—no what many members of

Parliament and hundreds of organizations

called for after the corporation started doing

post a film and announced the shut-

down of its Quebec City postal plant last

summer. Canada Post's postal bill, calls

into question the need for such major cuts.

Our members are public sector workers who

are about the worst they provide and would

like to open up the decision making so that

the interests of all are served.

Delbert Bourque, National President,

Canadian Union of Postal Workers

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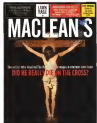
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Christian Mission of India wrote a thesis titled "Jesus in India," which gave a rational explanation of the Gospel accounts, including Jesus's escape from the tomb and the part Pilate and some doctors of Jesus played in returning him back to recovery. The miracle of Jesus beyond Jesus—after the Crucifixion—is also outlined.

Salim Jais, San Diego, Calif.

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MIND THE CULTURE GAP

Andrew Potter's column about the process in France ("It's not about the economy," April 1) once again confirms that Canadians are brilliant at analyzing problems clearly. I live in Europe, where CNH commentators suggest the answer is simply about a job law and job security. France well understands that it is a danger area of cultural or societal values. And yes, students in France do understand that their country's job laws are rigid and out of touch with the real world—the trend table at the World Economic Forum

Michael Bageant is quoted as saying that the "no Christ position is impossible to maintain, only because of Jesus—a highly-bled Roman historian with good access to canon hierarchy documents—saying that Pontius Pilate crucified him." His neglect to mention that the belief in Jesus in Talmud's accounts, Book 13, chapter 40, was written in or about 150 CE, long after the purported event described. Nor does he produce the slightest evidence

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PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFF HARRIS



7 DAYS
OF NEWS

STORY OF THE WEEK — THE KYOTO TWO-STEP

Upon arriving back in the House of Commons last week, opposition parties wanted to know the fate of Canada's commitment to the Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change. The plan, Environment Minister Maria Ambrose said, is to "work with Kyoto to build a made-in-Canada solution" that won't actually meet the protocol's mandated cuts to greenhouse gases. In other words, the Tories plan to stay in Kyoto, but not live up to it. And you thought you voted the Liberals out of office.

Good news

A Liberal Kennedy

General Kennedy's entry into the federal Liberal leadership race is a welcome relief. If nothing else, it should bring a concrete stop to a race that was starting to resemble a contest for publicly connected private-industrial boys. Michael Ignatieff, John Godfrey (junior) and leader Bill Graham are clones of Toronto's exclusive Upper Canada College. And Bob Rae probably would've liked to go there, had he not been attending an international school in Switzerland. Kennedy, on the other hand, was born in The Pit, Man., and headed a Toronto food bank for 10 years before entering politics.

Judas the hero?

Scholars have been searching evidence of the real diversity of early Christian belief at a dizzying pace over the last 50 years. Even so, the gospel of Judas stands out. It casts Judas, the unrepentant traitor, as a hero, the disciple whose secret — under Jesus's secret orders — allowed Christ to escape his inevitable death through crucifixion. The logic, for the Christians who produced the document, was that the Resurrection was the supreme good of human history, and whoever helped to occur was only playing his part in the divine plan.

Can't crack the Code

It's been a few weeks for the author of *The Da Vinci Code*. Dan Brown won the plagiarism case launched against him in Britain by Michael Chabon and Richard Long. Co-authors of the equally fanciful *Harry Potter*, J.K. Rowling and although his novel's record-breaking stay on bestseller lists (139 weeks in *Midwest*) is finally ending — a clear sign for the rest of the world's authors — it

wasn't because of winning payments. In its first week out as a mass-market paperback, *Code* sold 500,000 copies in the U.S. alone, and publisher Random House topped the best-selling print run to six million copies.

Intelligent, unbiased

McGill University professor Brian Alpers is angry at Canada's Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council for rejecting his application for a \$60,000 grant to study how the

Bad news

Close, but no détente

For one brief piddly moment last week it looked as though the newly-elected House of Commons Authority was moving toward adopting the so-called two-state solution, a step toward recognition of Israel's right to exist. But Prime Minister Jean Charest, leader of the Islamic militant group, ended ministered on Friday his government's objections to any form of Israeli recognition, despite mounting pressure from Western nations

to cut off its most popular songs from regular air. From songs, *Friday Night*, *Weekend*, *Let's Spread the Night Together* (the lyrics, ironically, the same song the *Saturday Night* show is trying to please squashed sponsors). The five second songs were reportedly singled out for their suggestive lyrics, not for their delicious pop ditties. We know that because the *Horrible* *Shuffle* passed the censors' test, first and clear

Trophy hunting

Over the years, coudons would have shown that as a rule, women seek out men with cash, and men seek out women with looks. But according to a new British study, being rich is no longer enough to guarantee a man his pick of the ladies. He studies at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland were viewed close to 2,000 heterosexual women and found that the more financially secure a woman is, the more likely she is to choose a physically attractive man over wealth. Donald Trump would likely beg to differ. Julia Roberts' husband would not.

We want our HBO

Comics, Rudy Gurnea's fellow up to *The Office*, sees the British comedian as an actor with an braces-hungry, around film are, thinking he's more important than he is. With guest stars like Kate Winslet and Ben Stiller, the six-part sitcom has drawn huge ratings on the BBC and premiered in North America on HBO last fall. Both channels have picked it up for a second season, meanwhile, Comedians are still waiting to see the first Season one is currently playing on HBO Comedy. ■

FACE OF THE WEEK



THE FIRST TIME Rick and the boys break new ground by performing in China. Too bad about the censorship, though.

one of intelligent design theory is hurting the quality of science education. The council said his proposal didn't back up the assumption that intelligent design (creationism theory based on the notion that life forms are the work of a higher power) is wrong, and the theory of evolution is right. Professor Alpers may be wrong, but the council is right to stand on guard in the design of education in the U.S., the debate between ID and evolution has been driven by money and faith rather than science. The council is simply trying to avoid making the same mistake.

The U.S. indicated that it was withdrawing \$300 million in Palestinian aid, and the European Commission announced that it had suspended payments to the government as well. Hamas denounced the move as a "clear attempt to break the peace process."

No satisf—

Last weekend, the *Rolling Stones* became the latest millionaires and corporation to sue the censorship of the Chinese government. As the request of the Ministry of Culture, the band—scheduled to perform in Tianjin and Shanghai—agreed

Microsoft



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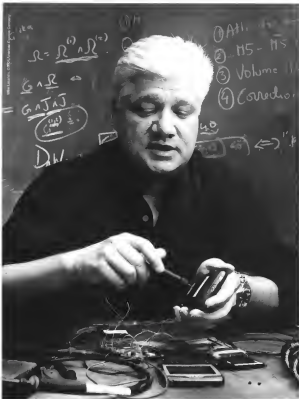
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My name is Mike Lazavici

childhood ambition was to change the world

fondest memory is the image of my children's smiling faces.

soundtrack is laughter.

retreat is reading.

wildest dream is to unlock the secrets of the universe.

proudest moment the opening day gala at Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics

biggest challenge is spending more time with my family

alarm clock is my BlackBerry

perfect day is spent at the cottage with my family.

first job during University was designing microcode

indulgence is watching movies and my lovely wife.

last purchase was 4 Dell's, one for each member of the family

favorite movie is Primer.

inspiration is the power of imagination.

My life is about making ideas happen.

My card is American Express



Mike Lazavici's

My life. My card.™



'Does Alberta want to lead, or does it want to say, "To heck with the rest of the country." I'm not interested in the latter.'

PRESTON MANNING, FOUNDER OF THE REFORM PARTY OF CANADA AND FORMER LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION, TALKS TO KENNETH WHYTE

Preston Manning was the founder and only leader of the Reform Party of Canada, forerunner of the Canadian Alliance and the new Conservative Party of Canada. He was elected to Parliament for Calgary Southwest in 1993 and became leader of the Official Opposition in 1995. In 2000, he lost the Canadian Alliance leadership to Stockwell Day. Last year, he founded the Manning Centre for Building Democracy. His recent address to an Alberta Progressive Conservative party convention raised speculation that he will seek to replace outgoing party leader and Alberta Premier Ralph Klein. A poll late last week showed him as the early favourite should he run. Manning's father, Stuart Manning, was premier of Alberta from 1943 to 1968.

Q Preston, you had a spectacular career as federal politician; you accomplished great things, even changed the Canadian political landscape. Just a few months ago you opened a new centre for political research. Now you're back to do. Why consider joining a nation to active politics?

A Well, it's not really a career thing. As you say, I've got some very interesting things on the go. It's merely that Alberta's just becoming a huge player in the federation. I do have a number of ideas that have to do with the future of the province and some of the leadership it could provide on the national

stage, so that's the basic reason why I've been contemplating this. But as I've said, this initiative hasn't come from me. I've been lobbied by people for the last year saying, "Why don't you think about it?" and so what I've said is, "Well, I would have to be convinced that there's good ideas for the province, that it's a good idea for the Conservative party in Alberta, and that it's a good idea for Sandra and me." So I've basically put the ball back in other people's courts and I've said, "Well, if you think that's a good idea, convince me."

Q On that subject, the Alberta Tories don't look like the kind of organization you're usually associated with. They're free-market in policy, they're rural and a little bit right. This is a lot of conservatism. Do you want to want to supplant, say, you.

A Well, I think that was one of the main reasons why I was asked to speak to their convention. I've learned and spoken on this for a long time, so in Alberta there are these periods of long one-party government, and if you're the governing party you have to reinvigorate yourselves periodically. And basically the way you do that is you announce some of these big novelties that turn from time to time just the province, and you refine them and combine them and recombine them, and you end up with that, that's how you get a new lease on life. If you can't do that, eventually the clock runs out. When I say, "Convince me that it would be a good idea for the party," I'm saying, "Is the party

prepared to do that?" Is the party prepared to reinvent itself around some new idea, not going up everything it's done—particularly fiscal responsibility—but embracing the next set of ideas?

Q Have the Alberta Tories really achieved fiscal responsibility?

A Well, I think Mr. Klein's biggest contribution was getting the budget balanced and the debt down and the nose down, but there's the question now of controlling to precise fiscal responsibility, which is hard when you've got the revenues Alberta has. But I pointed about two or three ideas to the convention. One is on building democratic infrastructure—in the party prepared to endorse that type of thing? All Conservative parties need that, not necessarily directly, but indirectly. And I particularly raised this idea that I think Alberta's type for a real, concrete marriage between genuine conservatism and market-based economics.

Q Where do you see evidence for that? What's the dream?

A Well, first of all, the environment for the last five years has shown up as the No. 2 issue, right behind health care in Alberta. Secondly, the growth of the environmental groups—and these are not all left-wing extreme groups, many of them are very conservative right groups—and the members of them, the leadership of them, the message, the attendance at their meetings, exceeds

those of all the provincial parties put together. The fact that the Green party, with only one member and really much of a campaign at all, gets 1,000 or 4,000 votes at my old riding, finished second in 94 and finished first in 95, which is one of the most conservative ridings in the country, these are all signs of the mood. And also when I go to the younger audience—in it, particularly at the universities—one of the few issues that seem to motivate young people is actually consider getting involved with either labor or groups or political parties in the environmental area. The example I used is the Tidy Convention was the march in southwestern Alberta. These people are, in any case, not liberal and economic conservatives, they're not moderate conservatism in their ideology more than any other portion of the agricultural sector, and yet they took that lead, they've continued to pressuring the eastern bloc, they're the key question on their lips and I think are they blue Tories, I think they're green Tories, and if someone could articulate that, that's an idea I think would make sense. And again my question, more to Albertans, was, "Would you be interested in pursuing and refining and developing that idea?"

Q The big deal is naturally going to be in the oil sands, isn't it? You're either going to see most of the money in northern Alberta for their government or you're not. How do you deal with that?

A Well, without posing the questions in that way to deal more responsibly with, first of all, how we manage the oil sands extraction? We can't continue to use a high premium clean-burning fuel like natural gas to power the production of oil sands, so to foster the scientific community, the technological community, the industry—and people are working on this right and day—conserve that resource the better. We can't continue to use the volumes of water Alberta is using at the rate we're doing, and there is a place for market mechanisms there to start reducing that resource at its true value and make use out of it and protect it? There are no simple answers to these questions, but I think they're issues that should be front and centre.

Q And I was in suggesting that, Junior Klein, Alberta leaders have now either been running against them that by talking about Alberta's internal issues I think that you speak about federal provincial issues too.

A Well, as the old West, I think, particularly when the West was not as strong as it is, and certainly Alberta wasn't as strong as it is, a lot of provincial policies centered around grievances that could only be dealt with—by the federal government, but that's now one of the

difficulties between the old West and the new West. Alberta's able to take care of most of its domestic regional problems very well itself, so there's not that lot of grievances to be dealt with, but there are new challenges. As you get to be a bigger, more responsible player in the Canadian scene, you have to give you going to take that influence on the national stage? Alberta's got a lot to contribute to continental energy security and it's important that the national government communicate that properly in Washington. Alberta's capable of working with those millions of understanding with other provinces—it's done quite a bit of that already—and finding things it has in common with other provinces and doing some things together. It's doing that more and more with British Columbia—I think it should do it with some other provinces as well. So Alberta's role in the federation is changing from more of an aggrieved party, the old western situation West wants to leave, is a potential leader in Confederation. And again, my question to Albertans is, if you wanted me to be involved with the Alberta government, does Alberta want to lead, or does it want to put the weapons in its hands and say, "To heck with the rest of the country." I've not intervened in the latter option.

Q An incredible criticism of a Premier Manning membership would be that you and your old pals, Douglas Harper, are going to work together to further weaken Canadian federalism and transform Canada into a loose confederation of provinces. How will you respond to that?

A Well, that's a caricature of what our partnership has. We've argued for a rebalancing of the federation. Strengthen and respect the provinces and their traditional source of jurisdiction, but strengthen the federal government in areas where nobody disputes that it has a primary role—foreign affairs, international trade, defence, the Criminal Code—and I actually think that's the pendulum for the future, that balanced federalism. And the fact that Stephen Harper, talking about that under the more general heading of flexible federalism, got some very good response in Quebec in the last federal election. I think it's an indication that that is a better way of holding the country together than Liberal centralization.

Q What do you think of Stephen Harper's so-called "broad appeal" as a label for his program that Alberta would probably reach out to of federalism and see its additional resources to look after itself? Is it over?

A Well, I think that was a product of the

frustration at the time, particularly when you had a central government that was not able to carry out ideas Alberta took, even positive ones to help strengthen the country. I think now that the Liberals are out of office, and you have a federal government that's prepared to be more respectful of provincial jurisdiction, that speech belongs to another era. And I can't speak for Stephen, but I think he would say that too.

Q The power struggle in Alberta is a job you're very familiar with. Your father held the office for about 25 years. You've recently gone up to the premier's office. In following your career, I've noticed that you seem to be more inclined to take note of the family experience and the knowledge you've acquired about how Canada works and the problems with our fiscal system, and use it in the federal stage, building on what your father accomplished previously. (You now return to provincial politics, so it's from coming or it's a retreat?)



'I think for us it's important to say, Sandra and I just can't sacrifice our own time together'

A That's hard to answer. I did everything I could do on the federal scene to try to apply our view—sort of an Alberta-based view of federalism and fiscal responsibility and domestic reform. Now there is an Alberta opportunity. There's no better province in the country—unless it's Saskatchewan, because if you were going to end up with a provincial government that's not better than the country does that one—but I do think Alberta has a better responsibility that goes along

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with that wealth that includes a national re-
sponsibility and that maybe some of my
national experience would be helpful in
helping Alberta play that role.

Q You just left office under
the Reform party and re-
shaping the conservative
alternative to the federal
Liberals. Now defend the
conservative movement
with new roles, new money, new people. You
cannot do half a long way down the field
and then Harper, some might say, took it to
the last river 15 ponds over the goal line and was
offered that interview for you?

A No. I don't think you can... if you start
thinking or worrying about those things,
Ken, I think it just poisons your relation-
ships and your attitude. No, I would have
liked to have carried it all the way. My ob-
jective was to get to 151 seats by the year
2000. And looking back, I will think we
might have been able to do that if we'd done
a few things differently. But the fact that
there now is a Conservative government
there, and the Prime Minister is a person
I've worked with for a long time and have
a high regard for, I'm nothing but pleased
with that.

Q You're 63 years old. How do you present
yourself as a candidate for renewal and the fu-
ture of an Alberta Tory party that's already
here as officer for almost four decades?

A Well, that's why you have to hear from
other people, too. Indeed something that we
lost there? I really can't change in that area.
I've been an advocate of new ideas. I've seen
I've had more ideas in my month than the Lib-
eral party of Alberta's had in 30 years.

Q Did you and your father ever talk about
you getting involved in Alberta politics?

A Not really. He retired in 1985 when I
would have been 26. There was a little move-
ment among some of the younger guys who
thought I should have tried to succeed him,
but he felt there was real wisdom in doing
something else and then bringing that ex-
perience back to the political arena. He was
not about political professionals, and he very
strongly encouraged me to get some experi-
ence in business. We had a consulting firm
for 20 years where I did communications and
strategic planning, mostly in the energy in-
dustry, and he was much more encouraging
me to get that kind of experience. So we never
talked much about Alberta. Plus, we'd had a
pretty good dose of Alberta politics up to that
point, and decided a little refresher change?

Q When's the biggest change in Alberta
since your father left office in 1985?

A Well, of course the revenues. When my
father was first elected in 1975, Alberta was
\$100 million in debt. This is 1995 dollars. This

was completion of the first Liberal admin-
istration in Alberta. The budget of Alberta
was \$37 million—\$8 million paid for debt
service, and you ran the province of Alberta
on \$7 million. When he left, of course, the
budget was getting close to \$1 billion a year.
Now the revenues are up to \$18 billion, so
that is a big transformation.

Q Don't Sandra have any misgivings about
a possible return to politics?

A Well, we'd have to be concerned that
this is a good thing for us. When I was a fed-
eral—particularly Opposition—leader, it was
compounded by trying to build a new party
or new parties in the same time. I spent 200
days a year on the road, and a lot of it apart
from Sandra, and we just don't want... we
can't do that again, we don't want to do that
again, so I've said to these people who want
us to look at provincial politics, "I've got to
be absolutely assured that we don't have to
make that kind of commitment." Now, they
argue back, "Well, it's a lot smaller a prop-
erty," but I also know those jobs just ex-
posed to exceed your capability no matter
what, so that's stress we would... Whatever
we do in the future we want to do it together,
and we don't want to be apart.

Q Is that not an argument—sorry if that
sounds harsh—it is that was an argument that
the job should go to somebody who is a dif-
ferent state in his or her career?

A Well, it would vary will be,
although Sandra's given a
lot of thought to candidates
for public office and she's
much more to move road
about politicians who have
younger children exposing themselves to
those kinds of demands, not so much for the
stress on the marriage as for the stress on
those child rearing years, so arguments can
be made both ways. I just think for us it's im-
portant to say we just can't sacrifice our own
time together, and if the kind of commit-
ments that's being asked for would require
that, we wouldn't be the people to do it.

Q What kind of a timeline are you work-
ing on?

A Well, I think Ralph Klein has sort of four
kind of a timeline now. He's said he's going
to resign in September, and presumably the
party would hold a convention before the
end of the year, so that doesn't leave a lot of
time. I haven't set an exact date, but I'd have
to know fairly soon. I'd have to be convinced
fairly soon in order to even

Q This spring?

A Oh yes, I would think a reasonably short
period of time.

Q A few weeks?

A I really haven't added it down, but I
can't leave it too long. ■

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at the time. John Chretien was running the Liberals, Martin was waiting in the wings, and the party recession looked like a lock.

It's wide open now. With the rap star post-athlete—Frank McKenna, John Manley and Allan Rock—gone, the second-term scoring staff cut. Liberal Seniors announced the wealth of the last week, Stephen Harper and Gerald Ringuet said they would. Anyone jumping in to win the race, waiting the winner as drinking. The Liberals expect to bounce back into power easily, the way Trudeau did after the freeing of Clark's minority of 1979. While the Liberals were far from dominant in the Jan. 25 vote, at running 101 MPs, many say the respectable size of their caucus bodes a deeper malaise. But what exactly is the problem—policy, party structure, election strategy? They need a leader who can make a clear diagnosis, and offer a convincing prescription.



'I'M THE THINKER, HE'S THE DOER,' IGNATIEFF SAID A FEW YEARS AGO

IGNATIEFF AND RAE sell him a lot of first talking to do co-operations Liberals have barely known them that they understand the party well enough to fix it. But, then, they are both uncommonly persuasive—at least in secret as soon of them. As students they squared off in debates at U of T's Hart House, and they still might be most at home pitching ideas on a campus. Rae was a shy, earnest new recruit for his performance as a guest talk at the University of Toronto. Ignatieff assumed a torn army showing of students to a wide margin speech at the University of Ottawa.

Politics, though, isn't a lecture circuit. Ignatieff cut his teeth as a campaigner by winning his brother's Lakehurst riding, under a more modest strategy. But his main claim to internal party respect might come from the advisers he has attracted, led by Senator David Smith, a legendary Ontario campaign master. Rae's credentials as a campaigner are, of course, more extensive, but also more problematic. As a long-time NDP'er, he fought Liberals first at the federal level and then in provincial politics. His defeat of David Peterson's Ontario Liberal government in 1990 still ranks as one of the biggest shocks in the history of Canadian elections. And Peterson, who is now leading Ignatieff's campaign, isn't getting on with it. Last week he told Ignatieff that Rae would free his resources from Liberals who in the past had "gone wrong" against him. "It's not a lot of a problem," Peterson said. "It's a huge problem."

Can Rae convince Liberals he fits? Supporters point to his personal evolution since his deeply unpopular provincial NDP gov-



BACK IN THE '90s they cut quite a swath on the rolling U of T campus, and squared off in debates

ernment was whipped in the 1995 election by Mike Harris's Tories. Rae moved quickly to the go-to guy for high-level inquiries. From working in the Red Cross to a head mood, he's now the head of the Ontario education in Ontario, to advising on environmental issues in Sri Lanka and Iraq. He split decisively with the NDP in 2002, angry over Joe Stinson, then the NDP's foreign policy critic, took a high-profile pro-

Harper to his last interview, Ignatieff declared: "I am not competing against my fellow Liberals—many of them are colleagues and friends." It was hard not to wonder if he had anyone in particular in mind. His backers privately say they hope Rae will split out to run, perhaps not become actually. That would enhance an old friendship. The race will be more interesting, though, if Rae decides instead to revive an old rivalry. ■

Polemical, and head-on on behalf of the party. He also slammed the NDP for refusing to follow Tony Blair's moderate example in shifting Britain's Labour Party toward the electable centre.

Friends say Rae's redoubtable public persona reflects a personal private sense of purpose after his ego took a beating. His own power in Ontario at the worst possible time, post-9/11, post-9/11, was plunging into recession, but his usual high-spirited, politeness made the situation far more fulfilling. The fears of Ontario business leaders. When he was later forced to impose restraint to keep the provincial deficit from spiraling out of control, he declared himself "being thrashed at the ballot box was the inevitable outcome." "As a personal level, he had to find ways of recovering from that," said Parag, "and to establish who he is and how he could continue to make a contribution."

After politics, Rae became close friends with prominent Toronto lawyer John Poirer. "Being premier forced him to understand the limitations of politics and political power. It's very hard to change many things, so we've got to have a limited agenda," Poirer says, adding, "I think that he now understands business and business, and doesn't approach them in all the way he might have 10 years ago."

Rae would enter the race with an unenviable case to his machine. His brother John Rae, executive vice president of Power Corp., was Chretien's most powerful campaign organizer. But he needs to raise that. Ignatieff is out of the blocks first, and gathered an impressive array of big-name Liberals behind him for his launch last week. Naming Ignatieff as his real adversary, Ignatieff declared: "I am not competing against my fellow Liberals—many of them are colleagues and friends." It was hard not to wonder if he had anyone in particular in mind. His backers privately say they hope Rae will split out to run, perhaps not become actually. That would enhance an old friendship. The race will be more interesting, though, if Rae decides instead to revive an old rivalry. ■

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HARPER set a loose tone and tempo for his government. And then the maneuvering to sideline the Liberals began.

THE SECRET PLOT TO DESTROY THE LIBERALS

What's with all the back-scratching between the Tories, the NDP and the BQ? 'We want to remove the Liberals from the game board,' says one MP.

BY PAUL WELLS, PHOTOGRAPHS BY PETER BREGO



FRANK WELLS

The first week of Canada's 39th Parliament was the latest instalment in the endless fight between the serious and the frivolous in Canadian politics.

PARLIAMENTS For once, newcomers had a good work. The new Prime Minister, Stephen Harper, set a brisk pace and tempo for his new government. Senior ministers set about their work with diligence and good humour. Parliament set to work with a minimum of fuss.

And the least qualified of the prominent outbidders for the Liberal leadership abandoned the race—although Schmidt Stroomach managed to insist with a straight face that the party had failed to raise her standards, rather than vice versa. The victors of over-

currents are almost never complete.

Stripped, startled, half-hearted concern to really understand, was also had work for the Liberal Party of Canada. The party that governed Canada for the 13 years (and for 16 of the last 66) in power, danger that it seems to understand, with more enemies than its leaders seem willing to count. Harper's Conservatives as the government, but it is the Liberals, under the temporary new management of Bill Graham who are alone with their backs to the wall. Much of the week's drama came from watching the starting new dynamic on display. Much of this Parliament's drama will come from seeing whether the Liberals understood the peril and can find any way out.

The fun began with the Speechless Snow in Theatre. On Tuesday I made my way up the

burn at Hill with a colleague from the Texas A&M. We were startled by the howl of our man fire. With my eyes I followed the path of smoke down to the ground.

There, just west of the Castro Block, behind the statue of Defender Soldiers Wilgus. In our cities, I'm not walking this up.

They were firing the traditional 12 gun salute to mark the opening of a new Parliament. Little else about the day went by unnoticed. Instead of the usual indeigestible stew of projects for every conceivable branch of government, Ilargy had Governor General Michel Séguin read a statement of the canonical "five priorities" that defined the Conservative campaign and will guide their first months in government.

By now almost everyone within these blocks of Parliament Hill can rattle off the five priorities as a party trick: cut the GST, restore accountability in government, crack down on criminality, make child care charges to all parents of preschool age children, and provide a wait-time guarantee for health care. Even in more elaborate language and in Minister Jean's larded codebook, reading the

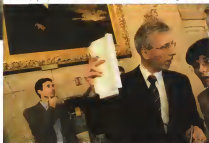
took barely 20 minutes. Printed copies of the speech indulged a visual pun: they were published on paper half the size of *Liberal Times* Speeches.

If there is any surprise in this *Third Speech*, it appeared on the last page, a thesis allowing plans that don't fit the underpinnings of the free enterprise. There's a surge from the *classics* (analogously vague: "significant international treaties") will flow into Parliament, to the vague but probably meaningful (the government will announce a "main course program, more productive Canadian economy"), a half sentence that will probably drive most of Finance Minister Jean Flaherty's (his budget decisions) to the specific and baffling. Why did this government, knowing how specifically the U.S. itself lifted to our greenhouse gas emissions, promise the U.S. would succeed at creating greenhouse gas emissions? Who led with your chest?

The ceremony would have to wait. On Wed-

more frequency, Daniel Emerson provided a range of the bumper. The Liberal colleague on the Conservative benches, in an out-of-the-box move, died. At one point Chuck Strahl, the agriculture minister, asked that thousands of farmers protesting outside had every right to expect action from a Conservative government. "Because they certainly didn't get any from the last government," Strahl's well-timed gain gave him a smacking cation. Emerson joined the ovation. Basically Emerson was applauding the assertion that he be allowed to do nothing government. Later he professed to "shake my head at the hypocrisy" of another MP. He will provide a barrel of fun for a long time to come.

OVER THE COURSE of that 45-minute session, and another like it the next day, the contours of the emerging parliamentary battlefield became clearer. It quickly became almost as interesting to watch the



BOON DECLARED: Everything I've succeeded at was presented as being impossible.

needs Harper out in the Prime Minister's hot seat for his first Question Period. The

farmer seems to give him little trouble. His official kind words of praise for each of the three opposition leaders who tried to grill him. He wavered away the Liberals, who pressed on almost any life, by saying that they had not managed in 15 years of trying to clean the problem up. And he showed the self-deprecating humor as that has made him there confining to some waters than they ever expected. Had he seduced David Keeney to abandon the Liberals for a Conservative cabinet now? "I don't think I've ever been accused of seducing anyone," he now says.

Not that the Conservatives enjoyed a bump five weeks. As it happens to be the case with

NDP and the Bloc Québécois are worth the two latter parties. So, here, too, is about

Here is another response to NDF leader Joseph Lapointe's first question: "The NDF considers the current government to be unaccountable in its use of the military to increase the number of arrests that [it] uses on the front lines. As we know, it is important to everyone, including the government, that we have an opposition party that is both national in scope and principled in its approach." "Don't we have one?" Lapointe asks. "Yes," says the NDF. "Appointing not 'Who with the member who is in building that kind of opposition,' Flanagan or, believe, adding the punching 'the kind of officers, the kind of officers'."



SITONACH says she has 'inspiring ideas'

Photo by The Press-Recorder could hardly have been making mischief. Except the odd occurrence of the Conservatives and the NDP continued throughout the week, as occurred again from over the New-Quebec coast. Here is the first part of the Layton campaign that has Harper's loosest response.

"Mr. Speaker, 17 years ago a Liberal government was elected on a commitment to build child care spaces across the country. Three minority governments, eight superior judges, and now a single child care act have been built."

A day later, Layton was on about the Liberal's announced record, "from head-to-head to the Minister of Education" Scott Brison. He said, "from a child of poverty to the Minister, sitting on the same side of the House of Commons." Indeed, there were moments when the Bloc member went to cross the aisle line, leaving the Liberals alone on the Speaker's left.

Benoit Savagane, a Bloc MP, reminded the House that his party has demanded for years that election-day scrutineers be non-partisan appointees, not party hangers-on. Would the new government do what the Liberals never had and later?

Up popped John Baird, the Treasury Board president. "Mr. Speaker, I'm very happy to work with my colleague from Quebec," Baird, an Ontarioan, said in French. "I can tell him the answer to his question is yes." *Applause from the Bloc.*

Curiouser and curioaser: The new Prime

IF HARPER'S GOVERNMENT HAD A RELATIVELY SMOOTH FIRST WEEK, IT WAS BECAUSE, FOR MUCH OF IT, THE TORIES WERE NOBODY'S TARGET.

Minister gave more hints about what's going on when he rose on Wednesday afternoon to deliver his speech in reply to the Throne Speech. Ottawa is the kind of place where there are often speeches in reply to other speeches. It's the occasion for a minister to say

Bringing Private Costall back home

Sgt. Grady joins a small group of soldiers with a heartbreaking job to do

BY MICHAEL FRISCOLANTE • Sgt. Bill Grady was not with the rest of his platoon on Sunday when it clashed with a band of Taliban fighters at a remote base in southern Afghanistan. He was 100 km away at the Kandahar airfield, running a nasty push to clear the base from the need to move to the "I had a silly accident the day before," he says.

The 34-year-old sergeant would rather not talk about what caused the accident. He feels bad enough already about not being beside his fellow troops when the enemy opened the "To be honest with you, I'm not sure," he says. "I've had lots of time to think about how the way home, and it really being one. I would have been there."

Instead, he is here, in the tiny town of Gibsons, B.C., attending a funeral service for Pte. Robert Costall, a fellow infantryman who was killed—perhaps by friendly fire—during the chaos of that 11-hour gun battle. For the past week, it has been Grady's sole duty to keep watch over his dead comrade, accompanying his other duties on his journey home from Kandahar to Ontario and finally to British Columbia's Sunshine Coast. Except at the coroner's office in Toronto and at the funeral home in Gibsons, he has never left Costall's side.

Since the Canadian army first deployed to Afghanistan in 2001, it has never brought home 11 bodies—three in the past five weeks. They have died in battle, spent hours in

THEY'VE SLEPT BESIDE COFFINS, SPENT HOURS CONSOLING THE WIVES

broken down and pain. And then, after the funeral and the wakes, they have hoisted plumes back to the front, back to the war zone that claimed their friends in the first place. Grady is among the smallest but regarding the army of men, who have watched an assignment that soldiers try their best not to think about, let alone train for.

"That was the very first that I could do," says Grady, a towering figure with a green beard and a firm handshake. As a lieutenant, he never missed to be anything but a soldier. He joined the reserves at 16, the regular force a few years later. "I'm one of

those weird guys," he says. "I volunteered to be recreating office saying, 'I want infantry.' I didn't have to go to the academy test."

Now a member of the 1st Battalion of Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, Grady is the weapons detachment commander in Charlie Company's 7th Platoon, a 35-man Quick Reaction Force that, in Afghanistan,



BROTHER'S KEEPER: Grady follows Costall's coffin at the funeral in Gibsons, B.C.

is on a mission to notice to deploy. On March 26, the platoon—minus Grady—did just that, escorted by helicopter into a small coalition base in Helmand province, where a company of Afghan national army soldiers had been ambushed by Taliban insurgents.

By the afternoon of March 29—after hours of the dead of 100 men—fighting nearly won by Canadian soldiers—Costall, the father of a one-year-old boy, was dead, as was Sgt. Joe John Foster, a U.S. National Guard medic who rushed to treat the 32-year-old private.

The next night, Grady followed Costall's coffin into the belly of a Hercules transport plane, the first leg of a long voyage home: five days later, at 11 p.m., he will walk with the body, this time sitting on the passenger seat of a silver black hearse to return into the port of Callaghan's Island Assembly, a small church that overlooks the local marina. Dressed in the same tan desert fatigues and matching

combat boots that he was wearing in Kandahar, Grady stands and salutes as military pallbearers lift the flag-draped coffin out of the hearse, perch it on their shoulders, and begin the slow, solemn walk toward the church door. A bugler plays behind them.

After the service, during the trumpet blast of last post, Grady watches as pallbearers fold the Canadian flag and hand it to Costall's widow, Christy. Minutes later, the hearse starts out of the narrow parking lot and around the corner, back to the funeral parlor where Costall's remains will be cremated. For the last time, Grady follows the coffin inside.

The Canadian Forces' internal police agency continues to investigate whether Robert Costall was accidentally killed by one of his own men. He was reportedly shot twice—once under the back of the head, once in the chest—but no bullet fragments were found. Whatever investigation find, Grady says he will not change who Costall was a soldier willing to die for his country. "You remember his sacrifice," he says. "No matter what comes out of this or the mission itself, just remember the sacrifice that young man—Canadian—bore given. They've given something ultimate that most people will never understand."

The sergeant is standing outside the church, steps from a memorial wreath that includes a photo of Costall. As he speaks, a senior officer calls his name. It is time to leave, to catch a ferry back to Vancouver. Grady will get the chance to spend a day with his wife and three children in Edmonton before rejoining his platoon in Kandahar. His first is fine. A doctor removed the shrapnel a few hours before the funeral. ■

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THE WORST PRESIDENT IN 100 YEARS?

George Bush has always been a polarizing figure, but now his constant battles at home and abroad are taking on historic proportions

BY STEVE MARCH

On March 16, Iraqi insurgents fired a mortar shell into the U.S. army base in Tikrit, landing near two members of the 101st Airborne Division, reportedly as they stood waiting for a bus. The explosion killed Sgt. Amanda Pauson of St. Louis, Mo., making her the 1,345th U.S. soldier killed in Iraq since the war began three years ago. She was 21.

A few hours later in Washington, the U.S. Senate voted 73-49 to increase the ceiling on the national debt by \$750 billion, to \$4 trillion (all figures U.S.)—or roughly \$30,000 for every man, woman and child in the country—that existing the first ever default on U.S. debt. The U.S. House of Representatives then approved another \$92 billion in effort to speed up to support the war effort in the Middle East.

That night, Gallup's support for Iraq again fell in Americans' attitudes toward the White House, downing just 37 per cent approval of the President's performance, versus 59 per cent who disapprove—a drop of five percentage points on a month—one of the worst scores of any president in the modern era. Just another day in the life of the world's last superpower under the leadership of President George W. Bush.

With deficits and debt swelling to eye level, an economy showing massive cracks, and support for America crumbling abroad, the Bush administration finds itself increasingly

isolated. With mid-term elections looming in November, the President is now widely seen as a political liability. Republicans are actively distancing themselves from Bush, and joining Democrats in strident critiques of the White House. And things may be getting worse. Last week, court documents emerged showing Scooter Libby, former chief of staff to Vice-President Dick Cheney, testified that Bush authorized the leak of some intelligence to shore up support and discredit critics of the Iraq war, raising, for the first time, the possibility that the President may be personally implicated in a scandal.

There are more than just the normal trials of a second-term president facing all the slings and arrows of partisan attack. Bush's constant battles at home and abroad are taking on historic proportions, hardening perceptions that his administration is doomed by failure on multiple fronts. Just over 36 months have passed since George W. Bush was elected for the second time, but already history is beginning to debate whether he just might be the worst U.S. president in a century.

In 2004, George Mason University polled 415 presidential historians and found 70 per cent considered Bush's first term a failure. More than half considered it the worst presidency since the Great Depression. More than a third called it the worst in 100 years. Eleven per cent said it was the worst ever. Robert McDevine, a professor of history at

McLaine College in Mississippi, says scores would likely be worse if the poll were repeated today. "When I found out that survey I said Bush was the worst since Buchanan [1859-61], but things have gotten worse and now I'd have to consider him the worst ever," McDevine says. "If you look at the situation he inherited, and the situation following 9/11, he had great opportunities and he basically squandered them. He has put the future of the country on a much more precarious path than that was when he became president."

That Bush is unpopular, especially among academics, is not surprising in itself. He has always been a polarizing figure, and most presidents have been deeply unpopular at some point in office, especially those who declared the end to an ambitious project beyond America's borders. Even Abraham Lincoln, now generally considered the greatest of all U.S. presidents, was widely derided in his day for triggering the blood-bath of the Civil War for a good reason.

In the final analysis, presidents are judged on a relatively narrow set of criteria—fiscal management, economic stewardship, handling change or crisis at home, and the protection of America's interests abroad. It all boils down to two questions: How did he deal with the challenges of his day? And were the American people better off at the end of his tenure than they were at the start? No president can claim an unblemished positive record, but few have come up so short, on so many counts, as Bush has.

Ronald Reagan was wracked for minutes aging the nation's finances, but he won the Cold War and his aggressive tax cuts eventually ignited the economy. Richard Nixon resigned under the cloud of Watergate, and remains one of the nation's most needed presidents, but his actions also credit him with ending foreign policy mistakes, including the opening of relations with China. Bush's supporters say history will be kind to him, just as it has been to Henry Truman and Lyndon B. Johnson. They, like Bush, guided the nation through wars—Korea and Vietnam respectively—widely seen as unnecessary and ill-conceived. But Johnson was a champion of the civil rights movement and an ally of Martin Luther King. Truman was the driving force behind the Marshall Plan to rebuild Europe after the Second World War.

With just a few years left in his mandate, historians say George W. Bush has no such achievements to offset the previous cost of Iraq, a blood and treasure. Despite the biggest federal spending spree in more than a generation, the Bush White House has produced

"HE HAD GREAT opportunities and he basically squandered them," says a critic.



IMAGE PROBLEMS: ASKED TO GIVE A ONE-WORD DESCRIPTION OF THE PRESIDENT, THE MOST POPULAR RESPONSE WAS 'INCOMPETENT,' FOLLOWED CLOSELY BY 'IDiot' AND 'LIAR.' A YEAR AGO, THE TOP RESPONSE WAS 'HONEST'



UNFRIENDLY FIRE: Protesters burn an effigy of Bush in Jakarta last month.

FOREIGN POLICY PROBLEMS:

THERE IS AN OLD WEAKNESS IN OUR FOREIGN POLICY. WE MAKE THE MISTAKE OF BELIEVING THAT INSIDE EVERY FOREIGNER THERE IS AN AMERICAN JUST WAITING TO EMERGE. IT'S JUST NOT TRUE.'

no transformational states for domestic policy. His massive tax cuts of 2001 and 2003 have neither sparked the economy nor bolstered his popularity. They have, however, exacerbated a fiscal crisis that threatens to undermine the very basis of the American state. "It used to be a part of the American character to believe in delegating governance, and saving for the future," McInerney says. "But it seems the future is being ignored in spectacular fashion by this administration."

Even a couple of years ago that would have sounded like a pious exhortation. But today it is a scolding rant, like the general consensus. The latest backlash against Bush has nothing to do with his foreign record, his fraying relationships, or even the allegations that the Iraq invasion was launched under false pretenses. Nor is it rooted solely among the Democrats and urban intellectual elites that have always depicted him as

David Walker is an accountant by trade and a political firebrand by disposition. For the past four years, he has been preaching the gospel of fiscal restraint in little effect. As comptroller general of the United States, he is the independent auditor of government, and last November he issued a classic call to the nation's lawmakers, comparing America's burgeoning debt and debt to the forces that ultimately led to the Roman Empire. "There is no question both U.S. government spending and tax cuts are spiraling out of control," Walker wrote. "It's time to get serious about our nation's fiscal future." The question he cites are nothing short of staggering.

When George W. Bush took office at the beginning of 2001, he inherited from the Clinton administration a budget surplus of \$136.4 billion. He had campaigned on a promise to use that money for an ambitious program of tax cuts, which he pursued soon

after early upon arrival in the Oval Office. But Bush's conservative allies had expected those tax cuts to be followed by an equally sweeping review of federal spending. That anxiety never came. On the contrary, he's gone on a stomach-busting spending spree.

Stephen Skowronek, director of budget studies at the Cato Institute, is working on a book about the decline of fiscal conservatism under Bush, and says conservatism among conservatives has been building for several years. "People thought over the long term he'd try to depopulate government and Republicans could finally make good on their promises of getting spending under control, but here we are in the second term and this has never materialized," he says. "The dam has just broken."

The Bush administration has a standard answer for this charge: In a time of war, they say, budget overruns are the inevitable cost of defending freedom and democracy at home and abroad. But that no longer holds water with Washington's budget hawks. They point out that federal spending has risen by \$63.5 billion a year under Bush, less than a third of which has gone to national defense and homeland security.

As a result, the U.S. national debt has surged from \$7 trillion in the last fiscal year before Bush took office, to over \$4.3 trillion and counting. Brian Riedl, a budget analyst with the right-wing Heritage Foundation, says the Bush administration has played the "bete-

noise" to every special interest that comes calling, using its spending power to win support on potentially vulnerable constituencies. The No Child Left Behind education bill, for example, was aimed at suburban families; the farm bill at Midwestern voters; and the prescription drug benefit at the most active voting bloc of all, seniors. "No president since FDR has accelerated spending in this way," he says. "It's shocking about it, but the members know what the motivation is."

In reality, the \$1.3-trillion figure doesn't even begin to describe the true size of America's fiscal crisis, because it doesn't include the so-called entitlement liabilities in Medicare and Social Security, the U.S. government is committed to providing retirement benefits and medical care for senior citizens. But thanks to an aging population (the first of about 79 million Americans baby boomers turn 60 this year) and rising medical costs, those programs are desperately underfunded. At the end of 2004, government actuaries calculated that the two programs had unfunded liabilities of \$43 trillion, up from \$20 trillion in 2000. In other words, Washington would need an additional cash infusion of \$43 trillion in order to meet all its future obligations under Medicare and Social Security. That was before the President pushed through the prescription drug benefit, which added an estimated \$20 trillion to the Medicare shortfall. And when Republicans tried to add spending caps to the bill, to prevent astronomical cost inflation in the future, Bush threatened to veto them.

The Economic Policy Institute recently projected that under the current course plan, by 2034 all government or revenue would be consumed by four budget items: Medicare, Social Security, national defense, and interest on the debt. Whether the department forecasts that, at the current rate of growth, the cost of servicing the national debt will consume half of all tax revenues within 25 years.

Bush does have his fiscal delinquencies, and they generally point out that the national debt is higher as a percentage of the economy under Reagan. But as Cato's Skowronek points out, there are key differences between the two. For one thing, Reagan's deficit is far smaller and more manageable as his prodigious war on. The Bush administration is printing deficits north of \$400 billion a year for the foreseeable future. More importantly, as Reagan increased deficit spending, he cut other budget items. Bush has allowed spending to grow across the board. The greatest costs? Bush's guys are Medicare and Social Security, and those haven't even

been seen yet. Skowronek says, "We're going to look back and wonder what the hell Republicans were thinking expanding all these programs at a time when we should've been looking at how to reform them, and pay for them."

America's looming fiscal crisis would be less daunting if it weren't for the economy, which was poised to take flight. But among economists there is little hope for such a windfall. With 11.6 per cent growth in GDP and the creation of 2.5 million jobs in 2003, President Bush frequently crows about the world's "pre-eminent" economy. Beneath the surface, critics see a situation far less healthy than it first appears.

Two million new jobs sounds like a lot, but it's the most anemic job-market performance by any president in the postwar era. The plot

also has failed to keep pace with the growth of the workforce, and as a result the overall employment rate under Bush has declined from 64.4 per cent to 62.9 per cent. The manufacturing sector has been particularly hard hit, losing 2.5 million jobs since Bush took office, a decline of roughly 12 per cent—more than the postwar high-growth under Truman, worse than the early '70s stagflation under Nixon, and far worse than the darkest days of Reagan's Rust Belt plant closures. Little wonder that a Gallup poll earlier this year showed more than half of Americans consider the economy only "fair" or "poor," and 52 per cent don't think it's getting better.

That would be less of a concern, the optimists say, if the Bush boom of 2001 and 2003 had formed the basis of a broad economic resurgence at home. But while corporate profits hit a record \$1.36 trillion last year, companies have been stubbornly reluctant to reinvest those earnings. With profits up 61 per cent since 2003, capital investments have declined by 4.5 per cent. And though that has fueled a surge in the stock market, broader financial measures like wage growth have stalled.

So while CEOs and politicians can point selectively to indicators of a robust economy, the story on Main Street doesn't look so rosy. Consumers know much of their lifestyle has been financed on credit. Disposable income has declined by 60 per cent to \$4.7 trillion in the past five years, and U.S. consumers now owe close to five times as much as they did 20 years ago when adjustment for inflation. Economists have been ringing alarm bells about this for years, and last

week Treasury Secretary John Snow issued the government's worst-case warning yet. "While credit and credit cards are a boon to life in America today, they also present some potential problems of credit and credit card aren't used wisely," Snow said. "People can get into trouble. They can cause (macroeconomic) problems." To financial analysts, Snow's comments seemed like common sense, but they have fueled speculation that he and Bush have parted ways with regard to the economy, and that he'll soon resign from cabinet.

In 2004, Ronald Reagan won the election over Jimmy Carter by repeatedly asking voters, "Are you better off today than you were four

FISCAL PROBLEMS:
THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WOULD NEED AN IMMEDIATE CASH INFUSION OF US\$43 TRILLION TODAY, IN ORDER TO MEET ALL OF ITS FUTURE OBLIGATIONS UNDER MEDICARE AND SOCIAL SECURITY



HOMELESS IN BOSTON: The U.S. poverty rate is at its highest level since 1998.

years ago?" In 2004, Bush wouldn't have dared ask such a question, and since then things have deteriorated substantially. While most of this can be blamed onto the President, the pessimistic view-selling hold that America's waning standard of living is under assault. A decade of improvement in alleviating poverty has reversed in recent years. While the economy has grown, the poverty rate has risen to 12.7 percent of the population, the highest level since 1998, representing five million people who have fallen into poverty in five years.

Even economists who supported Bush's tax cuts are little better than they will form the bedrock of a future boom—not with U.S. consumers so deeply indebted, and with future administrations saddled with massive foreign-bulldozing they will, on all fronts, have their backs up against the rear fender. But there are long-term concerns, and America has more immediate problems to face.

JACK TRUMP IS A LEGEND in the marketing business. He's written several classic books on branding, and his firms, Trump and Partners, is adviser to dozens of huge clients, from Apple Computer to Xerox. In late 2002, he was hired by the U.S. State Department to develop a strategy for deployment to polish the image of America around the world, counting the U.S. as partner in peace. "I presented this idea and they loved it, but they said, 'There's just one problem,'" he recalls. "They told me, 'We don't see you going to invade Iraq.' And I said, 'Forget that. All this stuff goes out the window.'"

Trump issued a global PR disaster to the Pentagon, and his firm went into critical. Last June, the *New York Times* article provided an in-depth examination of the American's opinion, citing the remarkably optimistic take: "American Character Gets Mixed Reviews." This was technically true, though the "and" merged from hostile to acrobatic. The report found that world attitudes toward the U.S. had deteriorated sharply between 2000 and 2005. In Canada, those with a favorable opinion of the U.S. had slipped from 71 per cent to 59 per cent. In Germany, approval ratings fell from 76 to 41 per cent. The story even went so far as to blame the world in Turkey and Pakistan just 23 per cent saw the U.S. in a favorable light. "That is the number of all branding problems," Trump says now. "What do you do to rebuild America's brand and image? When a business has had a bad and sustained record of a lot of its customers, they hang out a big sign that says 'under new management.' And we will get nowhere until

we have that sign hanging next to them."

According to Pew's research, George W. Bush appears to be at the core of international disaffection. That, says Bruce Buchanan, an expert on presidential politics at the University of Texas, has the potential to be an enduring roadblock to U.S. objectives and the world. "I think it's extremely bad for the United States and for the world," he says. "The chances of us continuing to be seen as an honest broker is seriously compromised, and I think that hurts our interests in the long run. Where else can you put the blame? The buck stops on the President's desk. It's the man in charge."

Robert Dole, a presidential historian and professor emeritus at Dartmouth University, agrees. He has written books on John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson, is now working on a biography of Richard Nixon.

ECONOMY PROBLEMS: MANUFACTURING HAS BEEN HARDEST HIT, LOSING 2.9 MILLION JOBS SINCE BUSH TOOK OFFICE—WORSE THAN THE EARLY-'70s STAGNATION UNDER NIXON, WORSE THAN THE DARKEST DAYS OF RUST BELT PLANT CLOSURES



CARS ROLL OUT BUT JOBS ARE SCARCER under Bush. 2.9 million jobs gone

and says no other president has been so weak visually evoked around the world as Bush, with the possible exception of Johnson. "There is no old weakness in our foreign policy," Dole says. "We make the mistake of believing that inside every foreigner there is an American just waiting to emerge. It's just not true. Woodrow Wilson made that mistake, and George Bush is making it again. The whole notion that you can export democracy to the point of a bayonet simply does not work."

To be sure, Bush's record in the Middle East is not entirely negative. Last year, Iraq held elections that he exceeded the expectations of the skeptics, and Afghanistan is slowly rising from failed state status, thanks primarily to the U.S. determination to root out the Taliban and capture Osama bin Laden. And even though his policies are deeply unpopular through most of the world, Bush has managed to rally support in several areas. For example, Europe and the United Nations have been heavily supportive of U.S. efforts to condense nuclear development in Iran and North Korea. And given that there have been no major terrorist attacks on U.S. soil since 9/11, the White House can justifiably claim success in homeland security.

Bell, cranks point to more other aspects of national security that seem to have deteriorated as attention has focused on Iraq and al Qaeda. Russia, for example, seems to be sliding gradually backward into authoritarianism, with secret police from Washington to South America, one nation after another—Brazil, Venezuela, Bolivia, Chile—has increased its spying programs. Bush's inattention to America's traditional interests in the financial sector is the Middle East, Iraq is growing more belligerent by the day while par-

amag nuclear capability in the face of Western pressure. And the push for democratic reform in the Palestinian Authority yielded a resounding election win for Hamas, the terrorist organization dedicated to the annihilation of Israel. Overall, it's difficult to mount a convincing argument that the world is smaller, more stable place today than when Bush took office five years ago.

Foreign policy is often a nightmare for U.S. presidents, most Americans have a long history of preferring isolationism to foreign intervention. John F. Kennedy suffered the humiliation of the Bay of Pigs fiasco, Carter was embarrassed by the Iranian hostage crisis, and every president from Truman to Reagan operated under the shadow of the Soviet menace. Bush doesn't yet face a threat on that scale of the Cold War, but no president has as much global hostility on so many fronts, at so short a time.

Most noteworthy are the signs that Bush's tendency toward authoritarianism has weakened some of America's traditional allies, including Canada. Perhaps the most dramatic example came in 2004, with Spain's election of a new left-leaning government, which eventually bowed to public opinion and pulled the over 5,000 troops out of Iraq. Hungary, Poland, Ukraine and the Netherlands began their own gradual withdrawals last year. And last September, Italy—which led the fourth largest contingent of troops on the ground in Iraq—began a phased pullout after an Italian airport was accidentally killed by U.S. jets and the public outcry strongly against the war. The NATO deployment in Afghanistan has been more stable, but not without controversy. It recently took six months of negotiating in the Dutch parliament before the Netherlands finally authorized deployment of 1,400 troops to the region to relieve a withdrawal of U.S. force.

Observers say these foreign controversies would be easily manageable, if not for a steady erosion of domestic exchange trading confidence in the administration. The targeted relief of farm-fertilizer-hike farmers, Bush's abject silence to appoint his close friend, the wealthy and unqualified Harriet Miers, to the Supreme Court, and Senator Lott's nervousness about the ongoing CIA leak affair, have all contributed to the President's slide. Last month, Pew released its latest study of American attitudes, finding that just one in three support Bush's leadership. Even among those who say they voted for Bush in 2004, his approval has fallen from 53 per cent at the beginning of 2005 to 48 per cent. Asked for a six-word description of the President, the most common response was "incompetent," followed closely by "dick" and "liar." A year ago, the top response was "hoax."

And while the President's leadership has been shaky, the world's exchange trading confidence in the administration has been shaky. The targeted relief of farm-fertilizer-hike farmers, Bush's abject silence to appoint his close friend, the wealthy and unqualified Harriet Miers, to the Supreme Court, and Senator Lott's nervousness about the ongoing CIA leak affair, have all contributed to the President's slide. Last month, Pew released its latest study of American attitudes, finding that just one in three support Bush's leadership. Even among those who say they voted for Bush in 2004, his approval has fallen from 53 per cent at the beginning of 2005 to 48 per cent. Asked for a six-word description of the President, the most common response was "incompetent," followed closely by "dick" and "liar." A year ago, the top response was "hoax."



IRAQ PROBLEMS: 'THE WHOLE NOTION THAT YOU CAN EXPORT DEMOCRACY AT THE POINT OF A BAYONET SIMPLY DOES NOT WORK'

TWO WEEKS AFTER IRAQ Christmas 2004, U.S. troops found Saddam Hussein cowering in a tiny hidden cell, just south of Tikrit, and officials noted an immediate surge in support for Bush. "We've come to this country through patience and resolve and loyalty," Bush said that night. "That is our strategy moving forward. The war on terror is a different kind of war, waged by capture by capture, will by will, and victory by victory. Our security is assured by our persistence and our war on terror is the war of liberty." That night, it seemed, America was ready to believe. But it would prove to be the high point of a presidency that is fundamentally defined by the decision to invade Iraq. The President's approval ratings have never returned to the levels of that December, when images of a haggard and exhausted Saddam Hussein faded across the nightly news.

Decades from now, academics will debate fiscal policy, jobs, the UN and the Supreme Court, but only the locusts to another stark question: when did the world fall apart? As of March 10, less than three years after the graduation from high school and immediately ordered, more than 300,000 Americans have been killed or injured, and more than 2,300 others are victims of the terror of a war, world-changing war.

Bruce Buchanan, for one, isn't willing to write Bush's name among the same presidents of all time just yet. "Short-term per-

MORE THAN 2,300 U.S. soldiers have been killed in Iraq since the war began

spectives have a short shelf life," he says. "It is possible he's set in stone, but that might not be his final verdict down the line. Perhaps breaking those eggs over there in Iraq will result in the eventual removal of the mad dog from the Middle East. But that's the officer's dilemma, we must judge in the here and now."

It's the here and now that really counts. Dole, who has spent years studying presidents like Johnson and Nixon, who were so often in office and never in retrospect, but when he looks at the trajectory of Bush's agenda, he sees Iraq hope that the 43rd President of the United States will ever be understood. "We are now deep into the wall, and the majority of his term has been put in place, and what goes where in it can be pointed out," he adds. "It's a disaster waiting to happen around the world. The war on terror is coming out to be something of a nightmare, perhaps the biggest from any policy blunder since Vietnam. Democrats will want to temper everything with a general of peace and apathy. They will complain about him being anti-establishment and far too unengaged. But ultimately it all comes back to Iraq. And if it continues to go as badly as it's going, he's in serious trouble."

For his part, the President is pressing the war with his audacious Middle East gamble, appealing for faith and chasing those who die to be again his. "We must never give in to the belief that America is in decline, or that our culture is doomed to retreat," he said in his State of the Union address last January. "The American people know better than that. We have proven the pessimists wrong before, and we will do it again."

Perhaps, the pessimists will argue, the better. And with every year of Bush's term, others that turn away from his leadership, the margin grows and the odds get longer. www.washpost.com/newsarchive



A VISITOR checks out a bulletproof car window at a São Paulo security inside jail

Staying alive in kidnap country

Security concerns are a fact of life for the well-to-do in Latin America

BY ISRAEL VINCIG • The security guard who tells everyone to tell his "Zee" is dead means when he orders the American executive on vacation in Rio de Janeiro to remain inside the bulletproof SUV he's hired for the day. Zee, barely 60 and unmarried, has worked with the likes of Bill Clinton and visiting presidents he refuses to name, in addition to some of Brazil's most important executives. Even though it is not information and there is no one in sight, Zee gets out of the black SUV clutching a pistol. He turns the area to make sure there are no bombs or potential kidnappers hiding in the bushes near the Chalet View, a popular resort spot on the mountains surrounding Rio de Janeiro.

The executive, who did not want to be identified, drops hesitantly "Zee" for Zee's real name, Zee, in his cell. But the body guard ignores the comment. Instead, he points out their bullet holes on the metal board that provides a short history of the landmark. "M 11 and AK 47 bullets," he says in English

as he returns to the SUV. "You see, this is the new business."

While security concerns Brazil and other Latin American countries may seem as excessive to some North American and European, they are a fact of life for the upper and middle classes in the region, who collectively spend millions of dollars every year to protect themselves and their families from kidnapping. In addition to abductions where multi-million-dollar ransoms are demanded, there are also numerous instances of "rescue kidnappings," which occur when victims are taken hostage for several hours or even days at a time and driven to bank machines to extract cash.

It is not clear what provokes the Fidal family, an upper middle class Lebanese Canadian family, to Caracas, where patriarch John Fiddell owned a chain of three stores. Fiddell, a naturalized Canadian who has lived in Venezuela for more than 30 years, had first-hand knowledge of the growing crime rate in his adopted country. In early 2005, he and his eldest son had been victims of an express kidnapping, when armed men in a crowd them to bank machines, during which they seized cash. Violence had become so

bad for the Fiddells and their neighbors in the gated community where they live that the residents' association hired a security guard to patrol the neighborhood.

But last week, the Fiddells' three children—John, 21, Kevin, 15, and Jason, 12—were found dead, along with their chauffeur, Miguel Rivas. The boys, who had dual Canadian-Venezuelan citizenship, had been kidnapped on the way to their private school on Feb. 23. (A week before their bodies had been found, police discovered the body of Filippo Sordani, 74, a Venezuelan Jordanian entrepreneur reportedly shot down after he was taken hostage by bandits posing as police officers.) The Fiddells did not even know they were in the family's ongoing negotiations with the kidnappers, who had demanded the equivalent of \$5 million, an amount the Fiddells reportedly could not pay.

The Fiddell brothers were the latest victims of a wave of kidnappings that has been sweeping the region for the last several years. According to the *Clifford Chance* Center for Public Safety in Mexico, a local think tank that studies crime in Latin America, there were 154 reported kidnappings in Mexico in the first half of 2005, compared to 172 in Colombia and 169 in Brazil. Asarco Global, one of the world's largest private life insurance companies, estimates that in 67 percent of all kidnappings, a ransom is paid. The average payment is \$120,000, according to Asarco, although some are enormous, ranging between \$1,000 and tens of thousands of dollars, are not uncommon.

PHOTO: AP/WIDEWORLD; PHOTO: AP/WIDEWORLD

In Colombia, many high profile kidnappings have been the work of Maoist guerrillas, while in Brazil and Mexico the biggest kidnappings in the past have been conducted by the well-organized gangs of former left-wing revolutionaries demanding extremely high ransoms. In 1999, two Canadian, Christian Lacroix and David Ignace, and a group of Argentine and Chilean missionaries, were targeted in the kidnapping of supermodel magazine *Elle* Dan in São Paulo. The kidnappers demanded US\$90 million, before they were captured by the elite police and kidnapping unit. In 2004, another group of students organized the kidnapping of advertising company executive Washington Oliveira, who was held for 53 days before police set him free; the sum of \$6 million was never paid.

The steady rise of kidnappings—many now attributed to professional negotiators—and violent crime in large Latin American cities is spawning alternative roles in everything from specialized insurance policies that provide ransom and professional negotiators, to high-tech bulletproof vehicles. The High Protection Co. subsidiary in Brazil will bulletproof a car for about US\$12,000. The company also sells

entry and driving liability cars that are an expensive sign of wealth in a country where nearly one third of the population of 185 million lives under the poverty line. The guards also can carry modern to always carry cash and in ATM cards, which should be turned in bargaining tools in the case of an abduction.

According to anti-kidnap guides published by Kroll Associates, one of the world's largest private security firms, 90 percent of all kidnapping drives a message from inside a company or from domestic employees. Kroll says its corporate clients in double check all references before hiring. Experts also encourage potential targets to keep a low profile, and warn them against appearing in society columns or having photographs published in newspapers. Gangs, they say, regularly get information about their targets from media accounts, and want to conduct months of surveillance before they strike. For this reason, some move their children abroad. Hans Stern, founder of jewelry company T1, Santa and one of the richest men in Brazil, rarely appears in newspapers, and for years drove himself to work in a steel car.



THE FADDOLLS' THREE CHILDREN WERE KILLED DESPITE THE FAMILY'S ONGOING NEGOTIATIONS

"You have to be smart, and learn to enter sport situations if you want to survive," says Zee, returning to the SUV after his abduction from the Rio de Janeiro. He mentions to the middle-aged American executive in the front seat, giving him the thumbs up. "Now you can go and enjoy the rest," he says. ■



SWEDEN: SECURITY DECISION RESOLVES A STINK
Add kidnapping, fermented herring, to the list of substitutes banned from international airlines. Detectors keen to find out if the Swedish security has been banned from the airlines are concerned the case could explode in-flight and spark panic. A spokesman for Stockholm's airport explained: "We're not saying this is a game to start using kidnapping as a weapon, but it is a practical consideration for the airlines."

JUST A FEW PINTS WITH THE LASSES

Drinking is up among young British women, and that means trouble

BY DANIELA BAVILIERA • British lads have a well-deserved reputation for drinking more than their fair share, but now the lasses are going from a run for their money. Research by Maria Flor, professor of alcohol studies at the University of the West of England in Bristol, suggests British women between 18 and 26 now drink and in some cases surpass their male counterparts in alcohol consumption. "If young women continue to drink in this way, this could present problems in the future as we see signs of liver disease and other health problems—which are likely to show up in a much younger age and with a much faster rate than we have seen in the past," Flor says.

Her findings are based on data collected from 12 European nations in 2004 and 2005. Overall, Flor found that drinking was generally increasing in northern countries and declining in the south. But in Britain there was also a marked increase among younger females. The problem is, as in America, where there are now women in the late teens and early 20s with liver damage. Flor wants cheap booze and change social norms. As an increase in recent years in disordered eating that alcohol abuse has never been more affordable to be one on Monday, when women once feared for their safety and tended to avoid becoming drunk, they now have a higher sense of security and are less inhibited.

In Canada, women will lag behind men, says Edward Adlaf, a research scientist at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto. According to the most recent figures available, he says, 19 percent of men and 6.7 percent of women agree in binge drinking—defined as consuming five or more drinks on a single occasion in the past year.

But the trend for both, says Adlaf, is upward. "In our school surveys every year and age," Adlaf says, "we found more interest in binge drinking among older adolescents—that might now have shifted into the adult population." A fact hardly worth missing a glass to. ■



A house for Ivar, Billy, and you

The BoKlok home from Ikea is cheap, chic, and delivered like a couch

BY SARAH ELYON Every week, hundreds of thousands of people in 35 countries around the world head to their local Ikea stores. There, they troll the aisles with the trademark blue-and-yellow bags, shopping for things they need for their home—for some things they didn't know they needed. They use in the restaurants, for their kids play in the children's area, and when they leave, they will have spent a little over \$100, whether they live in Kuwait, Romania, China or Canada. The Ikea experience is largely the same in any one of its 216 stores worldwide.

Unless you happen to live in Sweden, Norway, Finland or Denmark. There, the one-stop Ikea store shopping goes one step further: It will sell you not only stuff for your home, but the actual house itself. Yes, Ikea has moved into real estate. You can buy a BoKlok home in which to put your Billy bookcase and four cubes.

The BoKlok is a prefabricated home that comes in two styles: a single-family dwelling called the "Villa" (only available in Sweden), and the more popular two-story, timber-frame, L-shaped building that contains six apartments. Both are far larger developments. Currently, BoKlok, a joint venture between the design-driven brand and the Scandinavian developer Skanska, is sold only in Scandinavia, but it will be available later this year in the U.K., where's a partnership between B&B, Paris-based House and the

Hyde Group. While the dwellings differ slightly depending on the country—in Britain the bathrooms feature a tub, while in Denmark there's only a shower—the unifying principle behind all is, in Ikea speak, design for the masses.

"We have a price policy," says BoKlok marketing manager Rona Magnusson, on the phone from Sweden. "The premise should be affordable for a single parent with a child." BoKlok homes in Sweden start out as little as \$105,000, one-bedroom, 50-sq-meter units with a three-bedroom cost of \$190. In the U.K., the flats will be marketed as family-size household incomes of £100,000 to \$65,000.

The product line dovetails with a modern

AN IKEA DEVELOPMENT IN NORWAY SOLD OUT WITHIN 40 MINUTES



interior in prefabricated housing, with a number of arches designed using concepts homes to be built in a factory. North American just-as-basement, such as San Francisco architect Michelle Kaufmann's stunning Glendale, though, cost more than \$400,000, not including the land, making them unaffordable for Ikea's target buyer.

PREFAB PARADISE: Ikea vills in Sweden

The public seems to love BoKlok. When the product first went on sale in Sweden, in 1996, hopeful homebuyers lined up for two days outside the Ikea store. In Norway, a developer went sold out within 40 minutes. Now Ikea Sweden holds lectures for the units when a development is ready for sale. The first person to sign the first to choose an apartment. Last week in an Ikea store in Malmö, Magnusson supervised a waiting line of 100 families who were hoping for one of 30 spots.

BoKlok was developed by three Swedish women: an Ikea interior designer, a Swedish engineer, and a freelance architect. They created the modern, open concept shoebox apartment units (the comparison in Magnusson's office after their research told them customers wanted a light and airy site in a low-rise setting that had access to green space and was still affordable. "To keep cost low and design high," they decided to prefabricate the buildings in a factory.

While the process of buying an Ikea home involves stages of a handsy type involving in fact packed with a spring Allen key, the reality is that between 70 and 80 per cent of each house is built indoors in a factory by skilled workers in an assembly-line fashion.



PRICE FIRM: The houses are modern real-estate to be affordable for a single parent.

"The kitchen is there, the wallpaper is up, the tiling, the flooring, everything is done in the factory," says Magnusson. Once the houses are completed, a transport trailer delivers them to the local Ikea store, wrapped in tarp, to a suburban site, where between 12 and 100 future households are stacked and completed within four hours.

Of course, buyers can't design themselves to the fact that they have little say in the look of their homes. Just as a Dalby floorboard in Saudi Arabia is inferior to the floorboard in Slovakia, BoKlok homes are all identical. Unlike other developments, where

the buyer is offered some design choices—pink concrete kitchen tiles versus blue tiles, for example—BoKlok only permits customers to decide what colour they want to paint their walls.

"That's our way to keep costs down. We do everything the same way," says Magnusson. "We've already decided what Ikea kitchen fits with the model of the house, the tiling, the oak flooring." Even the shrubbery is pre-arranged, with every commercial garden featuring its own Swedish apple tree. Naturally, you have a choice when it comes to furnishing your place—though, considering all buyers are offered a free consultation with an Ikea designer as well as a 50-sq-meter to spend in the store, you do risk making your home a perfect Ikea model home.

In fact, Ikea has sold 7,700 houses, and its goal is a doubling rate by 2006. BoKlok homeowners are, according to an Ikea survey, "extremely satisfied," 98 per cent said they'd recommend BoKlok to a friend. So sales are hindered only by the cost of land. When you buy an apartment, you'll receive a membership of a co-operative and share ownership of the land. Most prices land means higher costs, so the company's strictly enforced price policy limits its from purchasing property in high-end neighbourhoods. To far

ther protect the low prices, Ikea has warned the sales firms to stop speculation from buying cheap and selling high.

There are no stand-alone BoKlok in Canada or the U.S., even though we have Ikea—its largest chain and from across in the Canadian urban landscape. It focuses on a new services push-up but introduced in January by LaSerna, called the ITCC. The product's marketing campaign, claims Victoria's Secret, is a mix of 100 of 100-100 (FFX) line, which is based in its "most supportive" price, cover and minimal guiding. The name and logo of LaSerna's ITCC, like a "consciously similar," says Victoria's Secret. The company, a division of Columbus, Ohio-based Limited Brands Inc., is offering \$1 million in damages.

"It seems to be more of a publicity stunt than a serious lawsuit," says Neil Landell, an analyst with Montreal-based Vermont Partners. "It seems silly, that lawsuit." Still, Landell doesn't think it's connected to a spin-off in Canada. In fact, he doubts Victoria's Secret is contemplating such an expansion. "The bottom line is, I'd believe in what I see it," says the analyst, adding that Victoria's Secret has consistently spent no more than 10 per cent of expanding its store base outside the continental U.S.

VICTORIA'S OTHER SECRET?

If the U.S. giant moves north, as rumoured, it'll shake up the industry

BY KATHERINE MAXWELL Victoria's Secret, the U.S. lingerie retailer best known for its catalogue of pretentiously endorsed underwear models, may soon be coming to a mall near you. Already a weekly leader south of the border, with 900 stores across the United States, the company has been in negotiations for some months to open 10 to 12 shops north of the border, according to the Financial Post.

If it happens, it could alter the landscape of the industry here. The Canadian market, with its profusion of big-name brands—two or three different shops after another in the same mall, not to mention the department stores—has been far more competitive than the U.S. market. Victoria's Secret would be a new player at the upscale end of the industry.

Some observers speculate that a Canadian expansion is the real reason behind a lawsuit filed in February by Victoria's Secret in Canada against LaSerna's ITCC. The suit targets LaSerna, the Montreal-based lingerie chain and from across in the Canadian urban landscape. It focuses on a new services push-up but introduced in January by LaSerna, called the ITCC. The product's marketing campaign, claims Victoria's Secret, is a mix of 100 of 100-100 (FFX) line, which is based in its "most supportive" price, cover and minimal guiding. The name and logo of LaSerna's ITCC, like a "consciously similar," says Victoria's Secret. The company, a division of Columbus, Ohio-based Limited Brands Inc., is offering \$1 million in damages.

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Victoria's Secret did not reply to requests for an interview. But Laurence Lewis, president of LaSerna, thinks the move is unlikely. "In the last 15 years, every six months someone calls saying they have evidence that Victoria's Secret is coming to Canada," Lewis says. He's not getting his knickers in a knot over the possibility, although he admits that "any competition of any sort is always of interest to us."

He's got market share to protect. With sales of more than \$400 million a year in

Canada, LaSerna sells 16 per cent of all lingerie sold here. Among 17 to 29-year-olds, the industry's key demographic group, LaSerna commands a whopping 35 per cent of the market. (Next is Hanes, with 26 per cent, followed by Wild Main, at 15 per cent.) Among 30 to 44-year-olds, a market that's growing in importance, LaSerna has seen a jump in its share to 36 per cent, from 30 in the previous year. By comparison, Victoria's Secret sells a relatively minor 33 million of all lingerie apparel a year in Canada, though its catalogue.

If it does launch in Canada, Victoria's Secret may have trouble with its business model, Landell suggests. Canadian women tend to spend less on bras and panties than their American counterparts. LaSerna's business model is a mix of 100 of 100-100 (FFX) line, which is based in its "most supportive" price, cover and minimal guiding. The name and logo of LaSerna's ITCC, like a "consciously similar," says Victoria's Secret. The company, a division of Columbus, Ohio-based Limited Brands Inc., is offering \$1 million in damages.

For Lewis, volumes drive the business model. "We keep prices low as a matter of policy to attract mass customers." And he hangs on to them, if ever there's new competition. ■

KEYS TO THE REACTOR? OOH, DOUGHNUTS!

In Homer Simpson working for Germany's third-largest oil power utility, a plot to get employees at EnBW's Philipshafen nuclear power plant into 10 keys to high-income areas. Last July, EnBW was under investigation for newly a week, EnBW at the EnBW is under investigation after enlisting the keys had been existing since March 10. The oversight has been corrected by changing no fewer than 110 locks.

EMPLOYEE
OF THE
WEEK

KIDS, GO TO YOUR WOMB!

Does acting like a fetus for 10 minutes a day actually help kids learn?

BY KATE FILLION • In many preschools, learning to move like a fetus is now part of the curriculum. The theory is that mimicking some of the movements they made in the womb makes kids better at math and reading.

Separately, a new *Newsweek* cover story by Dr. John J. Fox, a neurologist, followed 843 Irish children for two years and found that

developing Primary Movement training. In the first year of life, however, primary reflexes should switch off and be replaced by a secondary set of postural reflexes that support the child's transition to the upright world of the toddler. But some kids don't go through this process, says McPhillips, whose new research suggests that poor children are at greater risk. "The most obvious reasons are the neural risk factors, like prematurity and low birth weight, but there is a hereditary angle as well."

And when primary reflexes persist, they can make schoolwork grueling. Particularly

page more heavily and so forth, and after a few days you'll probably get the point down and shake your hand because you're also fairly exhausted," says McPhillips.

According to Jordan Black's study, ADHD persistence is "significantly associated with level of attentiveness in reading, spelling and mathematics," and boys are more likely to have it than girls. Primary Movement, which gives children activities that aim to improve primary reflexes, seems to make them go away, and led to "very significant improvements in reading and mathematics."

"If a child has a deficit, it seems to improve scores across almost 10 areas," it sounds great," laughs Gillian Berk, special educational needs coordinator at Orlowood Infant Primary School in Belfast, where for the past 18 months all students have participated in the program. Do they grumble about the exercises? "If the child has persistent reflexes, the exercises are difficult, and we do get a fair bit of moaning," concedes Berk, but the evidence results—half of Oakwood's graduating class of 11-year-olds has jumped a full level ahead in both literacy and numeracy—cannot put that support.

Anecdotal evidence from Berk and other teachers supports Jordan Black's findings: kids with the most complex learning issues show the most dramatic improvements. "This has been because Primary Movement is a therapy, it's not a speed requirement, teacher waiting is the only one—and many other other workers for kids with dyslexia and other learning disabilities have never been proven conclusively to work." "We've looked at other programs, and you get less improvement," proclaims Peter Hopper of Belfast's Royal Maternity Hospital, who has also studied Primary Movement, told the BBC. "One is just out of all comparison."

Joy Jennings, who works in Chester, S.C. and is currently the only Primary Movement teacher in North America, thanks a lot of work it works. "It's an area of the brain. If your child has trouble reading, the answer isn't giving them another book, or more worksheets. It means to base that you're not, why isn't this been done before?"



PRIMARY MOVEMENT class at Oakwood Integrated Primary School in Belfast

those who participated in Primary Movement classes made reading gains to standardized tests—including kids with "very significant learning difficulties." Dr. Fox put another way, acting like a baby for 10 to 15 minutes a day seems to help kids learn.

Primary Movement, it looks, will, add. Younger children perform a series of 16 exercises in time with musical songs, older children, eyes closed, complete a sequence of very gradual movements. The overall effect is a mixture of gentle, slow motion yoga, and postural therapy.

The exercises themselves are based on the primary reflexes—reaching, grasping, specific neck movements—displayed in utero. "As the brain starts to become active, it releases these reflexes in a reciprocal action, therefore movement is born reflexively to shape the nervous system. It's a bit like the first few in our training programs," explains Marian McPhillips, a psychology professor at Queen's University of Belfast who has spent 11 years



A NICE ASS IS BETTER THAN A BALKY HOUSEWIFE

A footbook approved by the Indian state of Tamil Nadu offensively compares housewives to donkeys. The Hindi-language reader states: "The donkey is a shabby creature. For while the housewife may sometimes complain and walk off to her parents' home, you'll never catch the donkey being disloyal to his master." When the women's caucus of the state's ruling party lodged complaints recently, the local for official records and to remove the passage.

PHOTOGRAPH BY GETTY IMAGES/REUTERS/ALAMY



Barbarian at the gate

Does a 'flying' carp spell trouble? Ask those who've taken a hit.

BY DANIEL BAHAGSSE • For reasons that quickly become apparent, the flying of carp is not a harmless activity. "They're ugly, they smell bad and they're strong," says Donna Chapman, a fisheries biologist with the U.S. Geological Survey in Columbia, Mo. They also have an annoying propensity for jumping when surprised. In 2003, a carp weighing 30 lb. leaped out of the Illinois River and struck a woman on the forehead, and the animal drowned. Some boaters have been known to carry garbage on their boats to deter leaping fish. Chapman has been hit countless times, and has had a carp in her two-day-old fish tank in his last in a single day. One time, a 12 lb. carp struck one of his technicians in the throat as he leaned over the gunwale to collect a water sample out of the Missouri River, causing the man to pass for a day. "They're ugly, they smell bad and they're strong," says Chapman. "Working around the water carp is a little bit like working in an area where people are randomly throwing boiling balls."

Today, billions of silver carp and the closely related goldfish carp infest the shared waters of the Missouri, Illinois and Mississippi rivers, wreaking ecological havoc and threatening Canadian waterways. By some estimate, the two invasive species from Asia are so rampant they can displace native fish to the extent that carp now account for more than 90 per cent, by weight, of all the fish in the Mississippi basin. The Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, near Romeoville, Ill., connects the Mississippi to Lake Michigan via the Elkhart River. To curb the risk of the carp spreading

into the Great Lakes, wildlife managers often plant on the floor of two "moss-poled" dune fields, known as USFWS 1 and 2, and project aimed at creating two beds of moss to keep fish off all carp in their respective waters. The first barrier consists of 26 electrodes made of large steel bars that rest on the bottom of the canal. In 35 feet of water, and upon an 185-foot width. Workers on the second barrier, 800 feet downstream, are to begin in May.

A temporary electric barrier that has been operational on the canal since 2003 is on its last legs. Not good, given that the rapidly moving carp, when grown up to about 100 lb., have been on speed only about 15 km away, says Phil May, a fish mass specialist at the University of Wisconsin. In the Great Lakes, and on the coast of the barrier's advisory panel. Strangely, the carp have not crossed the canal in the last three years, adds May, but no one knows why. "Having this information would really help our own level of risk," says May. "And they've not done that, so no one knows, nor can we get a better handle on getting this reconstruction completed."

The other carp, native to Russia, North Korea and China, is the most notorious of five species of Asian carp because of its tendency to jump. All are terrible invaders—silver carp can lay up to a million eggs. Silver carp was introduced to Arkansas in the 1970s, along with the rice pumping program, to control algae in the aquaculture industry. Flooding in the early '90s allowed both species to escape from containment ponds.

Jackie Gaudin, a freshwater research biologist with the federal Department of Fish and Wildlife in Burlington, Ont., notes that only Ontario bans the import of the live fish, which are sold in Asian fish markets. One exception, prior to the Ontario ban, Gaudin recalls spotting two live silver carp moved in with her on a ride in Toronto. The women, however, may have one of these fish and inexplicably release it into the wild. Gaudin is now studying just how big the live carp market is in Canada.

Back in Missouri, Chapman says he's had to fight 10-foot-long aluminum work boats with protective netting for the driver. While standing, and with the boat under way, he's had carp jump over his head and clear the boat stern to stern.



SOME BOATERS CARRY GARBAGE-CAN LIDS TO DEFLECT INCOMING FISH



"That fish is easily over seven feet out of the water." He's installed a flimsy guard because flying silver carp have struck the lower body already, causing his boat to lurch forward dangerously. He won't miss it any longer, says a source of his before some unfriendly fisherman who catches them for \$100 a piece.

But, across their young adventures, Chapman notes, Canada, and despite what he doesn't see to end the carp population and start an irreversible assault on Canadian biodiversity. "If the fish get around the barrier, it's going to be because somebody carried them around the barrier." If that happens, Canadians will really have something to carp about. ■

HUNTER ATTACK ON SPIDER PLANES OUT

If you're going to kill a spider in Australia, it's right to say: "I've got an emergency personnel were called to a market outside near Sydney after a natural had attempted to kill what he thought was a spider. The spider was a large, hairy, black spider. The man was killed when he hit a match, causing him to hit his back. In another event, another attempted to kill a spider, a man killed a spider crawling up a wall and broke his leg in two places."

ALAMY/ALAMY

she has in bed at night? No one knows better than she herself a more than a happy life of dancing carousels and gilded thrones, with vaults and walls so assorted inside belly. Depressions and insecurities accompany the job. As a constitutional monarch, she is compelled to follow the policies of the government of the day, no matter how unpopular. When some high-ranking in the Foreign Office handled the news of evolving relations with Germany, she had to spend four miserable days in 1938 hosting the ghastly Cossacks. When British Ambassadors were taking up to Arab monarchs, the Queen was sent to Monaco, where the king kept her waiting for hours in the North African heat.

Her public role has also once brought her close to death. One morning she came to 1951, when a deranged woman fired at her at the wedding of a noble in the traditional long gown for the annual Trooping the Colour ceremony. The gun contained blanks, and the woman was immediately detained. But the Queen's terrified horse bolted off as usual panic, and only a minute of Elizabeth's horse-riding saved her neck. Then more serious was the unimaginable loss in royal society the following year (1952) allowed a midwife to climb the walls of Buckingham Palace at night and give entrance to the Queen's bedrooms, armed with a chunk of a broken lantern. The Queen had collapsed him for the minutes or so that it took her to get him out of her bedroom and into the hands of a passing policeman. As the story broke, she testified her royal robes to stand, revealing nothing behind the ceremonial scale and none.

Where is the woman in all this, the female heart beneath the robes and crown? Elizabeth has lived through 50 years of knowing that her husband was himself a stranger to the monarchy, often to the point of making her women when group had it that legacy in phantoms in her mind. The great lady Philip also had a malign influence on Charles, firing him to end a brutal Germanic era (1952) to make an affair of it. The man who once was never pleased Philip at all, carried on Charles's feelings, she openly favored the younger daughter, Princess Anne, and proclaimed her tougher than her brother.

Such behaviour on Philip's part did nothing to delay a passionate romance about the Queen's own private life. Could Prince Andrew and the Duke of Edinburgh's son? Tiring of her husband's suspected infidelity, the group goes, the Queen turned for comfort to a honey childhood friend, now the Earl of Arundel, and went for a quick car ride outside the mile. Inside a child without no resemblance to Philip. True or false? We may never know. But Elizabeth would have known that Elizabeth I found the identical

she about her heroic mission, the drifting Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester. Second wives did even trouble Victoria herself. In the film Mrs. Brown, modern audiences were treated to a version of the anecdote that she had had a relationship with her Scots servant, John Brown, and the same whisper went round about her Indian secretary, Abdul Karim.

Elizabeth rode out this crisis. But not to be so bold was the man of Charles's call-lapting marriage, with Diana appearing on TV to confess to adultery, biting her tragic, left-ringed eye like a stricken wife. Charles had back by proclaiming his own affair with Camilla, a revelation topped off by the publication of tapes showing just how physical the relationship was. No matter should have to



SHE RULES: Many British citizens dream of her every night.

hear the entire end of her reign. But Elizabeth puts her royal role above all else, and the greater part would have been to her sense of the monarchy and its place in the nation's life. Would her father have done that? Where was the dignity, the self-restraint, to be expected of a future king?

Through it all, the Queen has given nothing away. "Never complain, never explain" is her watchword. More than any other subjects, she connects the classic British traits of decency, reserve and self-control. She also lives by the wartime motto, "Keep Smiling Through," as many who say is going on.

More and more, there is a Mona Lisa quality to her smile. She still has plenty to smile about. Her idyllic early years as a laughing child, beautiful and beloved, a privileged aristocrat sense of personal worth. She can look

back on growing into a lovely woman with a lovely shaped face, beautiful legs, perfect English rose complexion, and a gift of wit and grace. It was once said that all men in Britain, from Churchill down, were in love with her. In old age her cousin, Nigel Nicolson, who died in 2004, still dreamed of the "young wife" might be danced with the young prince.

To the early Britishers, their queens were the Golden Handed in earth, "the Sovereignty," the spirit of the land who was married to the tribe. To most Brits, Elizabeth still holds that title. "When she came to the throne," Nicolson said, "it was like a long engagement, and the coronation was the wedding." Statistics show large numbers of her subjects dream of her every night, and the nation sees her as the Mother-of-all. As such, Elizabeth I and Victoria, her role both natural and inevitable—given that no one under 40 can remember when she wasn't around.

At the end of her reign, the first Elizabeth, her husband by question about her succession, finished their own way.

"Why should I direct all eyes to the crown now?" Elizabeth I knew the stakes of this. She has watched as Tony Blair's prime ministership has gone into full after his rash announcement he would step down. "I trust a mistake," Blair says now. It's a mistake the Queen will not make.

So it has come to pass for Elizabeth. And as a bonus, she has her husband back. Now that Philip has been brought in line by a prime minister at last by age, it is just, the work of the monarchy has come to an elegant old woman, walking on his path. But he's his old man, and he's no longer the man. These days, she's the one more likely to be flying around, to Australia for the Commonwealth Games, or visiting countries that still need the blast of England, green and sunny only she can provide. Why give up? She still enjoys the job, and she's more popular than ever. At the end of her life, Elizabeth I told her subjects, "I count the glory of my crown, that I have reigned with your loves." It's a copper historical Elizabeth I will be able to say the same to



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- Full dentures depend on the health and size of the gums that support them, so it's important to have your mouth assessed periodically to ensure that your dentures still work properly.
- When a substantial amount of gum has receded, there are techniques and options that can enhance comfort and help to maximize the remaining gum.

Did you know?

You don't need a referral to visit a Denturist. Denturists must be licensed with the College of Denturists of Ontario in order to practice in Ontario and their Certificates of Registration (license) must be prominently displayed in their office.



LONDON: A FAILURE OF LAWM AND ORDER

An experiment with police patrolling London parks on a hot day in the UK. When the wheeled cops made their debut on park pathways, criminals soon learned to flee them on grass, which stopped the cops dead. Besides, only four officers signed up for the duty. "It's an unethical way to test it," said a Royal Parks public speaker, "because it hurts you to fall over." The stolen cops have switched to bikes.

THE PUCK STOPS RIGHT HERE

Defensive, depressed, and angry: no one does failure like the Leafs

BY JASONHUNTER GATRECHER—Somebody in the Toronto Maple Leafs organization is finding it difficult to live by the dressing room adage about staying positive and simply taking it one day at a time. How else do you explain the Montreal-themed blaring from the Air Canada Centre's PA system as the players took the ice for a pre-game skate last week? These are less of uplifting songs you could spin to help motivate a team on the cusp of missing the playoffs and avoiding the franchise record of Stanley Cup failure to 39 years. I'd suggest part of the soundtrack to the Blue Jackets' season, clearly isn't one of them.

A late season win streak has seemed to delay the inevitable, but the old joke about how you know it's springtime in Toronto—the "ducks" are out—seems as appropriate, and depressing, as ever. For the citizens of the "leaf" nation, however, the reality is even sadder this year. It's not just that a failure to make the postseason would be the first since 1997-98, it's that losing realization that this hockey club isn't likely to gather any more soon.

The view from the press box in the Scotiabank Arena, high above the ice as the ACC, puts the problem into perspective. Sprinkled among the arctic-laz, gothic-chic my BlackBerry-quadranting business types, the red faces wear jerseys emblazoned fearfully with names played from Toronto's top book of the Dead: Per every Stanley, or Darcy, there are three Gillespie or Clarke. Perhaps it's just a function of the \$100-per-point charge for rights to owners, but for a lot more people than simply to walk around with Klingberg, Roberts, Joseph, Thomas, or even Bingham and Stuart garnished over their backs that say Bitch or Whore. And who can blame them? The 2009-10 Leafs have no players among the league's top



LEAF BLUNDER: Peter Quinn will likely take a bullet for his team's on-ice blunders.

60 centers. Ed Belfour, the team's almost-41-year-old goalie (whose season, and perhaps career ended last week with back surgery), ranks 37th in save percentage. Only five of its regular skaters have a plus-minus. As a first year, the team had won three games all season when trailing after one period, and just a single match when trailing after two. And

YOU DON'T HAVE ANY BALLS. NONE OF THE GUYS LIKE YOU, DARCY TUCKER SNAPPED AT A REPORTER.

the Leafs' major acquisitions have all proved disappointments. Five-moving five agent Jason Allison reached 60 points before a season-ending head injury, but was a defensive disaster, ending up at .38. Jeff O'Neill, acquired from Carolina for his coaching touch, has just 34 points and is a .37. And like home clinic, Eric Lindros was too fragile for every day use, losing just 31 games.

In fact, if not for its power play—currently ranked fourth in the league—the club would

probably be finishing the season even closer to the bottom of the standings. Offensively challenged, elderly, and filled with maddening skaters, especially on defense, the Leafs squad found a real advantage disadvantage when the league opened up the game by making down on building, looking and obstruction. The immediate future holds little prospect for improvement. "But, last year forwards Alex Sten and Kyle Wellwood announced the rap 10 in our line scoring, but neither has set the world on fire. There are no emerging stars like Pittsburgh's Sidney Crosby, Calgary's D.D. Penner, or Carolina's Eric Staal wearing the blue and white. And the venerable Hockey News has ranked the club's farm system prospects 38th out of 30 teams.

Perhaps that's why even in the midst of the team's ice-fire, too-late win streak, the dominant emotion in the dressing room seems to be frustration. Relationships between the players and the media—never great in the overhyped Toronto market—are frayed. At week week practice, the Darcy shared out to

center, turned up and drilled a shot into the stands, uncomfortably close to a group of photographers and cameramen. Darcy Barker, an ex-leafs position of the ice as on it, reacted angrily to questions about a hit

the Torino Olympics. Now the 45-year-old is busy looking for the bright side of what could be the last few games of his coaching career. "That is a great job. I'm coming to a place that I like, seeing to it I'm working with a bunch of people that I like working with. And when it's tough, some days you don't necessarily feel real positive, but you go to work as that."

IT'S NOT JUST THIS SEASON—IT'S THE REALIZATION THIS TEAM ISN'T GETTING BETTER ANY TIME SOON



FALLEN LEAF: Offensively challenged, elderly, and filled with maddening skaters

that looked Buffalo's Jochen Hecht out of the lineup with a secured lease. "This has been blown out of proportion by you guys, like always," he said. "It was a nothing play." Tucker later made a point of talking out the TV reporter who had led the questioning. "You don't have any balls. That's why a lot of the guys like you," he berated. "I talk up for you, but nobody likes you." Another young reporter watched from the sidelines. "Tucker said exactly the same thing twice at the be-gaming of the season."

And even before the curtain officially descended on the year, the commentators were finding. It seems a foregone conclusion that coach Pat Quinn will take a bullet for his team's on-ice failings. (Although, arguably, a Quinn deserves to be fired for the choices he made as general manager between 1996 and 1999—making four seasons like Boston's Mike Dinwiddie for part this prime spring time acquisitions like Oleson—was for anything but the idea behind the bench.) "This season, his team what's it, a complete mess," Quinn said after practice last week. He had been hoping for a strong spring playoff run to help ease the coaching disappointment of Toronto Canada's exit in the quarter-finals of

four to a much more difficult in 2004, O'Neil's \$1.1-million contract, coming into pressure from the Leafs' owners and repping the Darcy last summer, are sure to haunt him.

The Air Canada Centre, with its guaranteed salaries, \$51 draft picks, and fine dining restaurants offering such fare as swordfish chop with pieces of celery root, for the low, low price of \$42,200 cash for the Maple Leafs Sports and Entertainment Ltd. And the franchise, already marked to the league's richest without increased value of US \$125 million, is set for another banner year. But the all that money is available for the on-ice product. The NHL salary cap for this season is likely to be in the neighborhood of US \$25 million. The Leafs already have \$10.5 million committed for 10 players. Re-signing Brian McCabe, though difficult, will take at least \$5 million more. That leaves just over \$15 million to sign 17 guys. They'll probably sign one first among equals. That is, well, under. "You can only do what you can do," he said. "You're making through small parts and under for prospects. So, then, accustomed to giving time spending years in the development arena, probably won't be happy. But if they can't say they've lost their hockey development to the end with disappointment, it's the club in the stands wearing the blue and white. ■

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MEN'S HEALTH

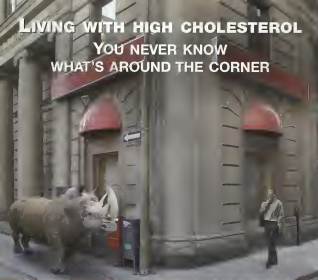
I imagine you're with one of a high-performance car. It's a beast. You fill it with low-octane gas. You never replace the tires, change the oil, or check the infotainment. You go from zero to 80 km/h at every stop sign. And you never bother to take your car in to have it tuned. How long do you suppose it would last? And when the engine does fall out, what do you suppose it'll cost to get your high-performance machine back on the road?

So, when was the last time you went to the doctor? How sure are you that your high-performance body isn't about

to blow a gasket? And if your engine falls apart, what will it cost you to get yourself back on the road?

Preserving a healthy man isn't difficult. It means taking your raggedy machine in for a tune up at least annually. It means fueling up on high-octane gas. And it means looking out for the details—recognizing when you have a burn that shouldn't be there, or a shimmie that's underlining a small problem with your alignment. Ignore the signals and you'll end up spending days, weeks or months in the shop fixing what most men never have broken. ➤

LIVING WITH HIGH CHOLESTEROL YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT'S AROUND THE CORNER



Don't delay. Take control of your cholesterol now.

Some risks can be managed. One of them is your high cholesterol, which can lead to cardiovascular disease such as a heart attack or even a stroke.¹ Heart disease is the leading cause of death in Canada and about one quarter of heart attack sufferers do not survive.²

Life is precious, so why not take measures to reduce unnecessary risk? High cholesterol is manageable. A healthy lifestyle is an essential part, but sometimes not enough. So it may be necessary for your doctor to incorporate other measures.

Since high cholesterol is a risk factor for heart attack and stroke, why take a chance by doing nothing about it?

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Cholesterol & Your Heart



ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT



TURBOCHARGED, FINELY TUNED

Men—statistically speaking—are the weaker sex. The average North American man lives 5-6 years less than the average woman, and more men than women die of heart disease, cancer, pulmonary disease and diabetes.

Heredity and male sex hormones may play a role, affecting such characteristics as body fat distribution. Specifically, men are more likely to accumulate fat around the abdomen, which is associated with an increased risk of disease. Socially sanctioned "male" behaviour—smoking, drinking, drug use and casual sex—can increase the risk of serious diseases. And men just won't go to the doctor, even when they have good reason.

One-third of North American men have not had a checkup in the past year. Nine million men haven't seen a doctor in five years. An American Medical Association study in 1990 found that men don't go to the doctor for all sorts of reasons: fear, denial, embarrassment, and threatened masculinity. "Men need not to get health care," says Dr. Lawrence Kanner, Medical Director of the Men's Clinic in Burlington, Ont., and Assistant Clinical Professor at the McMaster University Faculty of Health Sciences. "We come our boys not to cry when they get aches and pains, nor to show any emotion, so suck it up—and shut kids in the long run."

CHECKING UNDER THE HOOD

No matter how great the pain job, how far the nose, how gorgeous the dentling, if the engine's timing is off even slightly, watch out. Our bodies are like that too. Fail to heed the signals and you could end up boxed.

Cancer is one of the most significant threats to men's health. Men are 25 per cent more likely to get cancer than women, and they are 59 per cent more likely to die from it—a sad effect of male violence and unwillingness to talk about their health.

PROSTATE CANCER

Prostate cancer is the most common form of cancer in men in Canada. Every day, 96 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer and 12 die of it.

The cause of prostate cancer is still unknown and early prostate cancer usually has no symptoms. It is most commonly detected through prostate cancer screening tests such as the PSA blood test and digital rectal exam. A relatively slow-growing and localized cancer, it may take 10 or more years for the disease to become life-threatening. However, some prostate cancers grow and spread quickly.

Greg Sarny, vice-president, Marketing and Communications for the Prostate Cancer Research Foundation of Canada, likes men's incidence of prostate cancer to women's breast cancer. "Everyone knows that the threat of breast cancer is too large," he says, speaking of how women have rallied to encourage other women to be tested, and have raised lots of money. "What a lot of people don't know is that the statistics for prostate cancer in men are comparable to breast cancer in women," says Sarny. At least one in every seven Canadian men is expected to develop the disease in his lifetime, and more than one in 26 men will die of it. Approximately five million Canadian men are currently on their prostate cancer risk plans. Yet public awareness of prostate cancer is much lower than of breast cancer through the statistics for prostate cancer in men are comparable to those of breast cancer in women. Sarny stresses that while it might be a pain to talk about, every



WARNING SIGNS

Often, early stages of prostate cancer do not cause symptoms. But men with prostate cancer may experience

- A need to urinate frequently, especially at night
- Difficulty starting urination or holding back urine
- Weak or interrupted flow of urine
- Painful or burning urination
- Difficulty in having an erection
- Painful ejaculation
- Blood or pus in urine or semen
- Frequent pain or stiffness in the lower back, hips, or upper thighs.

¹ MacFadden, "Cholesterol: What you know is not enough." *MTV* 2002.

² Statistics Canada, "Heart and Stroke Statistics." 2002.



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man over 40 should speak to his doctor about testing for the disease as part of his annual physical.

While the cause of prostate cancer remains somewhat of a mystery, there are specific factors that can increase the risk. The risk of prostate cancer increases with age. It is rare for a man under 40 to have it, but the risk increases rapidly after age 50. Race is also a factor. Black men living in North America are at the greatest risk. Men of Asian ancestry are at lower than average risk. Men should also be aware of their family history. A brother or father with prostate cancer doubles the risk of getting it. The risk increases further if more than one close relative is affected. And diet is a factor. Studies have shown that a high intake of animal or saturated fat is associated with an increased chance of developing prostate cancer.

Treatment is straightforward, surgery or radiation, if diagnosed at an early stage. The prognosis is very good; the five-year survival rate for prostate cancer diagnosed at all stages is 96 percent.

PROSTATE TUNE-UP

- If you are over 40 and haven't had your prostate checked in the past year, it's time to take a look under the hood.
- Go to the prostate cancer research foundation's website and take the risk assessment test (http://www.prostatecancer.ca/english/prostate_cancers_risk_assessment/risk_factors.html).
- Choose a low-fat diet consisting of fruits and vegetables, bread and grain products.



HIGH OCTANE FUEL

Men consume more saturated fat and cholesterol, fewer fruits and vegetables and more salt than do women—dietary habits associated with a higher death rate from all causes. Switch from low-octane to high-octane fuel. Cut down on baked goods and fried products. Choose leaner cuts of meat and lower-fat milk products. Eat more fruits, vegetables, whole grain breads and cereals, and legumes.

Symptoms of colorectal cancer can include a change in bowel habits or blood in the stools, general abdominal discomfort such as gas pains, bloating or fullness, stools that are narrower than usual, a strong desire to empty your bowels with little result or a feeling that your bowel does not empty completely, weight loss for no apparent reason or constant tiredness.



- Include Vitamin D and micronutrients such as selenium and lycopene in your diet since they have been shown to lower the incidence of cancer.

COLORECTAL CANCER

Colorectal cancer ranks as the second most frequent cause of cancer deaths for Canadians, behind lung cancer. It's one of the most detectable and treatable types of cancer, but sadly not enough people get tested to take advantage of early treatment. The Colorectal Cancer Association estimates that 1 in 14 men are expected to develop colorectal cancer in their lifetime.

Colorectal cancer is 90 per cent treatable if detected early. No one is positive about what causes it, but we do know that advancing age, a family history of colorectal cancer, and diets high in fat and calories, but low in fibre, are all risk factors, as is the presence of polyps. benign growths on the inner wall of the colon or rectum may, if left untreated, over time become cancerous.

COLON TUNE-UP

- If there is a colon cancer or polyps in your family, have a colonoscopy to detect early cancer or removal of polyps. Once you turn 50, have a fecal occult blood test done at least every two years.
- Eat a diet high in yellow, red and orange fruits and vegetables, low in meats and saturated fat and high in fibre. Cruciferous vegetables have very high levels of natural cancer-fighting chemicals to add cabbage, Brussels sprouts and broccoli to your diet.

- Consume at least 1,000 mg of calcium per day.
- If you smoke, quit.
- Become active, if you are not already.

WEEKEND WARRIORS

More adults than ever are participating in sports. An active life is a healthy life. But if you are a "weekend warrior," someone who tries to cram a week's worth of activity into two short weekend days, you could be in for trouble. ➤

According to a U.S. study published in the journal *Prevention*, men are more than twice as likely to sustain a sports injury than women. And approximately seven million American women medical treatment for sports and recreation-related injuries each year.

With less frequent physical activity, weekend hockey players, golfers, and tennis players run a higher risk of joint and muscle injuries, especially in the knees, shoulders, and elbows. And since many men focus their workouts on anaerobic or strength-training exercises, such as weightlifting instead of aerobic activities, such as walking, which lower blood pressure and cholesterol and help your heart, their hearts are over-worked in fits and bursts.



Loren Laper, Director of Promotions and Marketing for Canadian Auto's Restoration Hockey Association (CARHA) says the City of Ottawa was prepared for any heart-related incident in the 2004 hockey season because it

had taken the proactive measure of placing defibrillators in all its arenas. "Going out one night a week is not the best way to approach your health," says Laper. "The city's interest in health and safety lead CARHA Hockey, a national organization committed to promoting and developing adult recreational hockey and programs, to choose Ottawa as a natural fit for the launch of the pilot program. At Fit Hockey, a conditioning program aimed at preparing players for their hockey season."

FUELING UP

A body built without proper nutrition is like a car built with bent bolts. Greasy burgers, pizza on the fly, wings and fries don't contain the essential ingredients to maintain and repair bones, muscles and joints. Vitamin C is needed to form collagen, the predominant protein that holds the body together. The B vitamins are involved in all levels of metabolism, supplying energy for locomotion, and communication. B-vitamins such as gamma benzene and omega-3 fatty acids help maintain cellular structure, improve immune system functioning, and may even lead to cholesterol reduction. Balance your diet by combining different foods to avoid a nutrient deficiency. Protein, carbs, fats, vitamins, minerals and water all work together to promote good nutrition. If you're low on even one nutrient, you'll limit your body's ability to perform.

WHAT PROPORTION OF FOOD TYPES MAKES FOR A HEALTHY DIET?

- A. 10% fat, 45% carbs, 45% protein?
- B. 10% fat, 60% carbs, 30% protein?
- C. 20% fat, 45% carbs, 35% protein?

a survey

MAINTAINING YOUR CHASSIS

One of the most common injuries suffered by weekend warriors is the stress. A stress is the stretching or tearing of muscle tissue or tendons. You end up swollen and in pain, sometimes with substantial bleeding or bruising. Fail to warm up or stretch

prior to a picking game of hockey and you'll end up with a stress. Rest, ice, compression, and elevation (RICE) are the ways to significantly reduce the pain and discomfort of your injury and decrease your overall healing time.

FITNESS TUNE-UP

- Don't pick a week's worth of activity into a day or two. Maintain a moderate level of activity throughout the week.
- Warm-up—cold muscles are prone to overstretching. Do a five-minute warm-up like a brisk walk or light jog around the block. This will get the heart pumping and blood flowing to the muscles.
- Stretch—limber up and muscles will be less likely to strain or tear.
- Cool down for five to ten minutes to decrease body temperature, remove waste products from the working muscles and to increase range of movement.
- Learn to do your sport right. Proper form can reduce your risk of tendinitis and stress fractures.
- Wear the appropriate safety gear.
- Accept your body's limits and increase your exercise level gradually.
- Aim for a total body workout: cardiovascular, strength training, and flexibility exercises. Cross-training reduces injury while promoting fitness. ♦



GET RUN READY

A tear-out guide to getting run-ready for Spring

Set a Goal

Committing to a goal can change your life. If you've spent the last 5, 10 or 20 years getting out of shape, John Stanton, President of The Running Room says it could take as little as 10 weeks to be well on your journey back to a strong, sound body. But you need a goal. Actually, according to Stanton, you need three:

- **DAILY GOAL:** Get your butt out the door. Stanton says, "Take the 10 minute test." No matter how tired you are, how unwilling to get up and go, run for ten minutes.
- **SEASONAL GOAL:** Pick a walk or run program you want to participate in to celebrate your fitness and get working on it now.
- **DREAM GOAL:** Whatever your dream you can do it. If you can't imagine one right now, think about it. You have plenty of time to set one. Just get moving!

Fuel Up Right

- **PRE-RUN:** Choose a snack or small meal that provides carbohydrates for energy like fruit, low-fat yogurt, toast with jam or a serving of **Vector® Meal Replacement** with skim milk. Drink 400-600 ml of fluid 2 to 3 hours before exercising. Allow 2-3 hours for a meal to digest before running. If you don't like eating before an early morning run, have a snack that contains carbohydrates before bed the night before.
- **DURING YOUR RUN:** Drink 150-350 ml every 15-20 minutes. For long runs, carry a **Vector® Energy Bar** Nutritional Supplement and eat a bite at 15-20 minute intervals.
- **POST-RUN:** Eat carbohydrates within 30 minutes when muscles are most receptive to incoming carbs. Include protein to help repair body tissue like muscle. Drink up to 450-675 ml of fluid for every pound you've lost.

Give More, Get More

Subjecting your body to a constant level of stress and a constant frequency makes for progress. The body adapts only to unaccustomed stress, so there's no benefit from exercising at a level to which your body has become conditioned. Getting more is only possible when you give more by increasing your frequency (number of weekly workouts), intensity (speed/difficulty), or duration (length). "If you ran 20 km last week," says Stanton, "your goal this week should be to run 22 km."

Form & Function

The better your form, the less energy you expend. Relax while running and create a mental checklist. Keep your posture straight, lining up your hips and feet. Use rhythmic belly breathing to fully inflate your lungs. Shift your hips forward to keep the alignment with your chest. Let your legs naturally choose their own stride and lead with your knees to keep your alignment correct and push off properly. "Listen to the sound of your feet hitting the ground as you run," says Stanton. "Your feet shouldn't be stepping the ground." Stay light on your feet at impact to improve your leg turnover and running form. Don't clenched your fists. Keep wrists loose and relaxed with your palms facing down as you run. Keep arms bent at 90° around heart area for cardiovascular efficiency.

Choose a Program

You are unique so your program must be unique. "Be gentle with yourself so you stay injury-free!" says Stanton. "Make sure your program is progressive so you keep increasing in distance or intensity. And keep it fun." Visit www.getrunready.ca and choose from the broad selection of program options offered. Your program should be entirely about "you" - where you are right now and where you want to go.



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'WE'RE NOT GOING TO ALLOW BOOKS WITH ANY PICTURES OF MADONNA IN BED'—ATTALLAH ABU AL-SIBBAH, THE MINISTER OF CULTURE IN THE NEWLY ELECTED HAMAS-LED PALESTINIAN GOVERNMENT

IBRAHIM AL-JAAFARI NOT A TERRORIST CASE OF DEMOCRACY

As Islamicist sectarian violence grips Iraq closer to a civil war, Western politicians are blaming *Bush's al-Qaeda* Iraq's first democratically elected prime minister. But so that, or the fact that he's own Shia guy—the United Iraqi Alliance—is turning on him, will make him much like Clinton accused him of being linked to Iranian head leaders. There is also a concern that he has lost the trust of Karbala and Samarra officials, important factions in Iraq's national unity government—and without a stable administration, the U.S. says it can't withdraw its troops. That's the case has only raised some anti-American voices, with al-Jaafari supporters taking to the streets, protesting against what they deem to be U.S. interference.



KATIE COURIC GOODBYE TODAY, HELLO CBS ANCHORS CHAIR

After having to appear pearly and interstitial through thousands of confusing details and timelines of terrorism, Katie Couric is leaving NBC's *Today* to become the anchor of the CBS Evening News. She didn't do it for the money. NBC reportedly offered about \$18.16 million a year if Couric (below, at work) stayed. CBS signed her for \$18.16 million a year, and she'll become the first female solo anchor of a U.S. newscast in over 40 years. And there's a more practical reason for the switch: Fifteen years of going to bed in the early evening and waking up in the middle of the night made it hard to juggle her parental duties—once her husband, Jay Maize, died in 1998, she raised their two daughters alone. From public Couric's replacement, The View's Meredith Vieira (above), buy a local three clock.



ATTALLAH ABU AL-SIBBAH HAMAS HAS NO PROBLEM WITH LEO DODGIFRO

Scratch belly dancing from the list of activities permitted by the newly formed, Hamas-led Palestinian government. "Belly dancing is a naked women," said the minister of culture Attallah Abu al-Sibbah (below left) to a *New York Times* reporter. "This is not Islamic." The new government's top priority: social and government reforms. "If the phenomenon of belly dancing spreads, our people might react against it by killing people," says al-Sibbah. Hamas will also be banned, and al-Sibbah is looking for ways to stop the sale of alcohol. As for Western films, the former prime minister plans to request the three most relevant ones: *Seven Years in Tibet*, the biopic of the first world war in 1947. But his department will act as a censor (Zohar, he says, is an example of a good "human" film). "And we're not going to allow books with any pictures of Madonna in bed."



HILLARY CLINTON CONSERVATIVE SLINGS AND ARROWS

For proof that Hillary Clinton is becoming a serious presidential threat, consider the attention she's getting from conservative literary types. Last week, *Wall Street Journal* critic David Brooks said Clinton has the best Democratic message: a class-warfare ranting money for U.S. troops strapped up with the high bill (the U.S. \$145.50) earning the right to be written into an upcoming law's book as the fictional hero who catches Hillary Clinton—a person's second villain who resembles the senator. As well, "I've Always Been a Yankee Fan" (Hillary Clinton in *Her Own Words*) is the new Chicago Cubs fan book for Sen. Clinton's home. The book of Hillary's own, edited by Tim Kugler, covers everything from her diary to Whitewater. Says Roger "There's nothing more to go on."

ASHURE BARTON HELPING THEM MAKE ALL THE RIGHT MOVES

Edmonton-born choreographer Ashure Barton's latest gig: The Thompson Operating Area. Choreographer and *Capitol Hill* producer, in providing her with the challenge of teaching gymnasts to move as a group of non-dancers. "Visualizing myself verbally has been the toughest thing," says Barton, 30. "I've developed a language with the dancers in my company—I articulate movements by doing them. This project has forced me to talk a lot more." The *Thompson Opera*, which is a dark satire about socialist themes and a protest, opens in April 20 in New York and is Barton's Broadway debut. "My mother will hate me for saying it," says Barton, a Natural Killer of Canada girl who is currently in a writer in residence at New York's *Barrymore Arts Center*. "I love dancing, but my true calling is making things happen from behind the scenes."

ROB CONDRY FINALLY A MOVIE ABOUT PAINTBALLERS

Two years ago, *Daily Science* correspondent Rob Condry was about the head—with a paintball. "It really hurt," says Condry, who was filming the documentary *Blackball*. The *Rob Condry Story* (showing in Toronto on April 25) in Edmonton on May 12) "It was a big *William* (movie) [from *Platoon*] and we employed actual paintballers to shoot me in the chest. But he shot right on top of the head, the way part where the mask and helmet wasn't covering it from reality." Condry, 35, plays *Dukes*, which making a comeback after being moved from the paintball community for shooting. "I know nothing about that world," says the writer. "But I did a lot of research and was pleasantly surprised."

BJORNAR HAALANDSMOEN LET'S HOPE HE LIKES PANCAKES

The conquest of genocide from Canada to Norwegian (a coach *Barry Haalandsmoen* (who headed Canadian cross-country star *Sam Kuster* to a placement for her broken pole, helping her and teammate *Becky Scott* win the silver medal in women's team relay in Torino), has been unimpressive. Well, actually, it weighs 52 tons. That's how much maple syrup he collected and sent to *Holmstrom* to thank him for his opportunity (Norway's team finished fourth). Both the Norwegian and Canadian governments moved import duties, which would have made the present more expensive to deliver. "It's not, and a little unusual," said *Holmstrom* about the gift he received during a ceremony in Oslo last week. "We thought it was from the state, but our five years a day."

SAM ROBERTS ADVICE: STAY INSPIRED SOPHOMORE EFFORT

"We're the only band in Canada that doesn't have at least eight members and at least one member like a stroller for toddlers," says Sam Roberts, referring to the current indie rock collective *enema*. Not that the 31-year-old rocker from Montreal and his four bandmates need any help. They solidified their first band in the U.S. with a huge touring schedule last year and are releasing *Chemical City*, their sophomore album—recorded in New York, Australia this week. Says Roberts: "Instead of going to an expensive studio in New York City, we took the money, bought plane tickets, rented an old church for a few hundred bucks a week and put in a studio. The beach party in the perfect landscape."



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SHALLER THAN LIFE: Niagara Falls!



Film

At least seven English Canadian movies are quietly slipping in and out of theaters this spring. *Lured*, *Friking Only*, *Three Girls*, *Nagara Motel*, *Whole New Thing*, *See Pigwen* and *The Lush Saloon*. Never heard of them? No wonder.

These are the kind of films that show up on a few screens, then vanish without a trace. They contain flashes of eccentric brilliance, and some fast performances. But they aren't smaller than life. They tend to be populated by desperate women and repressed, self-loathing men. And they plumb new depths of anti-heroism, from the English teacher who's addicted to sadomasochism in *Whole New Thing* to the pimp who chokes a pimp by pressing a stapler in his back in *Nagara Motel*.

It's hard to imagine these movies were designed with an audience in mind. So how do they get made? Welcome to the Byzantine world of English Canada film financing—a surreal mix of artistic dreams, bureaucratic nightmares and mutual failure. It's a world where distributors normally skip up publicly funded movies, flip the TV rights to broadcasters for as easy profit, then

The Lost Picture Show

Why do we keep making movies that no one wants to see? Paul Gross has some answers.

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

dump the film into a few theaters for a token release. A few bigger players get a better shot, and occasionally one breaks through. But our film culture has become conditional on obscurity. This is the story of a cinema in search of an audience.

English Canada's movie industry is in a sorry crisis. Quebec has a diverse, thriving, or weakly self-sufficient cinema. But such as C.A.F. and *The Rocket* have had native success with local audiences. Last year, Quebec movies accounted for 16 per cent of our French-language box office. In English Canada, only 1 to 2 per cent of the box office went to Canadian films. Those Quebecers who don't usually travel well outside the province: their next work. Alliance Atlantis hopes to defy that trend by releasing *The Rocket*, a *Murder* Richard Doolittle, on more than 100 screens in English Canada, backed by over \$1 million in promotion. It's a lot to expect Calgary to cheer on a Quebec nationalist piece or a French-Canadian hockey hero. But that's the vote of confidence English Canada's own movies rarely enjoy.

RICHARD DOOLITTLE: *The Rocket* was huge in Quebec, but can't wait in Calgary?



In interviews with Maclean's, some of the industry's most prominent voices are now sounding the alarm—warning that their industry is in dire straits, and that Telefilm Canada, an federal funding agency, is dangerously selfish. One of those voices is actor-director Paul Gross. "Telefilm is flourishing," he says. "It's a public service, paid for by the Canadian people. But we are not making movies that people want to see. If we made movies that nobody wanted to drive an, that would be hard to defend as a public service."

On a warm spring afternoon, at a town hall leather jacket, Gross enjoys a coffee and cigarettes in a pubo cat around the corner from his Toronto home. He looks very much a movie star. But he's a living embodiment of our failure to create a movie system, the ecosystem that governs the rule. At 40, this significant talent—who made his name as a *Movie* on TV's *Dave* South and turned his bad-boy American network offers so he could remain in Canada—has learned to create his own opportunities.

He wrote, directed and starred in one of English Canada's rare big-screen successes, 2002's *Mr. Wolf*. And now he's trying to mount a \$17 million, all-Canadian production called *Paradise*, a *First World* The romantic epics which *Paradise* serve as writer, director and star. It's an agreement to attempt a Canadian movie on that scale without resorting to an international co-production. Planning to shoot in Alberta, Gross has secured a \$5 million pledge from Premier Ralph Klein. In addition to private investment, he's looking for \$5 million from Telefilm. But, on his quest to bring a popular Canadian cinema, Gross is not afraid to bite the hand that feeds him.

Recalling a conversation with Telefilm executive director Wayne Clarkson, Gross says, "Wayne bargained with me, saying, 'I'll make your commercial movies, we'll end up making *David* or *Paradise*. But we should be making you make *David* or *Paradise*. It takes a certain kind of creative courage to stick your tongue to a pole for two minutes and



hinge the audience doesn't like. Why are the giants of cinematic comedy—Jim Carrey, Mike Myers—not making movies here? Because there's already no room for someone like that in our system. Telefilm wouldn't consider it a billion-year movie where someone sticks his tongue to a pole."

Gross argues that English Canadian cinema is wedded to an instant model based on the early festival backlogs of films "with terrific American like *Amos & Aaron*." Then he adds, "It's been stuck in that mode for a while. Festivals are composed of films even that you never see replicated in a commercial circuit. We've hidden behind that institutional support. And we end up in this perverse situation where we assign to any festival a great deal of institutional support."

These days, Telefilm is under siege from the heart of the industry. Victor Laessle, chair man of Alliance Atlantis's distribution arm, says, "The industry in English Canada is in total decay. In relationship with Telefilm is the worst I've seen in 34 years in the business." Robert Lussan, the country's most powerful producer, says Telefilm desperately needs to change its policies to recognize the realities of the marketplace. "Many, many millions of dollars," he says, "are being spent making allegedly theatrical films that don't play in theaters."

NEW DUTIES (from top) Barbara Hershey, *Wish Me Now*, Thelma, Lucid and Sojourn



"HIS ARGUMENT WAS, IF WE WOULD COMMERCIALIZE MOVIES, WE'D END UP MAKING 'DUMB & DUMBER.' BUT WE SHOULD BE SO LUCKY. TELEFILM WOULDN'T CONSIDER IN A BILLION YEARS A MOVIE WHERE SOMEONE STICKS HIS TONGUE TO A POLE."

Meanwhile, Lussan and a number of his colleagues are outraged that the whole system of public funding for Canadian cinema is in jeopardy because some producers are bankrolled by Hollywood while others have found a way of accessing Telefilm funds. Canadian co-producers of two U.S. backed horror movies, *White Noise* and *Amateur Hour* (Apocalypse), are now each eligible to receive up to \$1.5 million a year for three years from Telefilm under an old-called "envelope" system designed to reward Canadian producers who score at the box office.

As Telefilm's caretaker, Clarkson has no under stone heavy fire. Last year, while he replaced Richard Stanger, the industry embraced him as a savior. Stanger, who's now in charge of CBC-TV's English language network, was attacked for sending Telefilm on a Hollywood spree. Clarkson was not under a Hollywood spell. He had a couple with pedigree in Canadian cinema—one of the prime producers of the Venice International Film Festival, the innovative chairman of the former Ontario Film Development Corp. and head of the Canadian Film Centre. He was extremely popular. But after 35 months on the job, he's become the target of growing discontent.

Film-makers once complained about having to deal with Telefilm's fussy committee system of selecting films. Now Clarkson is accused to appoint a "film czar" to make the agency's funding decisions, but Gross, Lussan and others feel he's simply deferring responsibility. "The bottom line is there's just no leadership," says producer Nori Michon of *Offshore Media* (*The Red Violin*). "Why haven't taken any interest in making decisions or coming a way for Telefilm. I disagreed with Stanger's view, but at least he had one. If Telefilm was a Hollywood studio, every single executive would have been fired many times over. They have no accountability."

That's not true, argues from a producer who can't get funding. Under Clarkson's watch, the agency has approved to February \$21 million co-production of *Sell*, a period romance starring Michael Pitt and Kiera Knightley that's currently being shot by Que-

bec director François Girard (*Thirty Two Short Films About Glenn Gould*). Picheux is also producing *Preservation* with Gross.

Like Gross, Alexandra Balducci, another producer trying to make some acceptable Canadian films. She recently taught Telefilm support in developing a script for *Cruade*, which she describes as "a popcorn movie—a indie medieval quest movie with beer money." She says, "Telefilm asked me, 'Why would we want to develop something so commercial?'"

Like the CBC, Telefilm is a cultural agency struggling to make sense of its mandate. And there's endless debate over its priorities. No

creativity in the world has a film industry that can survive without government financing—with the robust exceptions of Hollywood, Bollywood, Hong Kong and (oddly) Nigeria. Telefilm's annual \$500-million fund of roughly \$50 million is a pittance in Hollywood terms, just enough to pay for one average studio movie. The agency funds about 60 productions a year, with average budgets of \$100,000 to \$2.5 million.

The way the system works, a producer applying for Telefilm funds must first make a Canadian distributor to sign him. If no movie gets green light, the distributor will often sell the broadcast rights to pay TV channels—which have a legitimate appetite for Canadian content. The distributor can make an easy profit by spending a fraction of what they pay for the TV rights on a token release on theaters. "The distributor has to convince an exhibitor to show the film on a screen for a week," explains Gross. "And he'll say, 'Yeah, so long as you cover the cost of popcorn.' That's over it's five money. It's like dipping your foot in."

Lussan counters "It's a sticky system," he says. "You're relying on an industry man who makes his commission if the movie makes a sale." Lussan suggests that Telefilm use a jury system to fund low budget movies from emerging filmmakers. But for projects costing more than \$1 million, he argues that the agency require distributors to take a risk. Pointing out that distribution is the economic engine of the movie business, he says, "There's a simple solution. Telefilm shouldn't finance any film through the door unless the Canadian distributor is on the book with a financial commitment that significantly exceeds the TV sale. This way, we will naturally reduce the number of films applying, and there will be more incentive to find a distributor."

Distributors, naturally, aren't keen on the idea. As president of Morgul Media, Hassan Amara is one of the country's boldest distributors of Canadian films. He has scored

some striking successes, including *The Corporation*, a documentary that grossed more than \$1 million in Canada, and *Water*, which took in \$1.2 million—a phenomenal feat for a subtitled film. In Canada, both these roles surpassed Lussan's last three productions, which losted in more lavish budgets—*Strong John*, *The Statement* and *Where the Truck Last*. Amara took issue with Lussan's bid to put distributors at risk. "Everybody should be at risk," he says. "Selling out the distributor is a huge failure."

Where Lussan and Amara agree is that hits are both rare and unpredictable in the

\$10 million into the economy. And it's somewhat considered with no guarantee that what shot in Hungary with virtually no Canadian money. "Because we're successful and the envelope is available to us, suddenly we're caught between a devil and a deep blue sea," he says. "I'd like anybody to determine that whenever English Canadian thinking fails or whenever the back has hit."

No English Canadian producer has spent more Telefilm money in the past two decades than Lussan. Some of his movies have been spectacular failures, most recently *My Secret*, *Journal*, *The Statement* and *Journal*. Where the *Truck Last* has been working as a media

it would. Do we have to be changed? Absolutely." Clarkson says Telefilm is considering a policy that would distribute distribution in the funding process, and remove their access to the broadcast law first. "Over the film is shot," he says, "then the distributor can choose to participate gradually at a cost."

As far as the future over regarding Hollywood-backed genre movies with minimal Canadian funds, "There's a legitimate cause for concern. An idea gradually evolved and controlled Canadian production? How do you determine that's a good idea? There's no question that they see the criteria. But



BETWO JULIA AND RESONANT EVIL What's more Canadian, a Lantier shoot in Hungary or a U.S.-backed flick filmed in Toronto?

"THERE'S A LEGITIMATE CAUSE FOR CONCERN," SAYS TELEFILM'S CLARKSON. "ARE THESE GENUINELY OWNED AND CONTROLLED CANADIAN PRODUCTIONS? HOW DO YOU DETERMINE THAT? A SMELL TEST? IS IT AN ISSUE? YOU GET."

pattern for talent like Eggegan, David Carver—and now Jeffrey Haden, who's directing his production of *Forgive Pres-Lentis* has served as the grand impresario of Canadian cinema, carving out a place for it on the world stage. And he's far from pooring out, even when they fail, his films at least go to the starring gaze—unlike many Telefilm movies.

Clarkson has heard all the criticisms of Telefilm, and he passes them with the aplomb of a career diplomat. Asked about distribution flipping TV sales, he says, "It's not an issue. Absolutely. In the present our system works." Not to the degree that we all wish

it or an issue? You bet."

It's no easy to judge Clarkson's Telefilm—the proof will lie in the movies made under his tenure. But so far he's been "a deep pothole," says Balducci. "I think he underestimated how much damage had been done at Telefilm over the past seven or eight years. He understands the issues and he cares. But he's not yet got the full story, which is a tremendous challenge. Most of us are personal friends of his. There's no communication."

That criticism baffles Clarkson. "I have heard nothing but compliments with the industry," he says. "How many times have I been back and forth across the country? In the last year and a half, the longer I've been anywhere in these nights." Sounds like a shakiness every-nighter to please a former film business while jockeying with a new Conservative government to preserve funding. From his perch in bureaucratic Canada, Clarkson is already beginning to envy the film car he's about to appear. "If there's one job I would want other than the one I have, it would be this one, because you can't fire a change." And change is the one thing everyone agrees Hollywood needs these days. It's the only one in Hollywood's long shadow. ■



WE'RE STALKING... GEORGE CLOONEY

Clooney has been the one doing the stalking lately, and his way says *Amateur Hour*'s director with peace, which reports that his sightings of celebrities. Clooney urged to let the public know in the world of the website with the sightings. He says the page is a threat to "what's safety." That goes down to his 10 friends to tell in his sightings of stars," he wrote in an open letter. "A couple hundred celebrities sightings and this website is worthless."



LEE GOT NEARER TO SUMATRA than anyone else did, male or female, in her conquest of the standard ragaSolo.

Is that all there is, Mr. Richmond?

In a new biography of singer Peggy Lee, sad to say, the fever dies out pretty quickly

BY MARK STEIN

Writing about music is, so they say, like dancing about architecture. To be honest, I'd like to see more of the latter, as I'd find it hard to believe Dame Alice Kitchin knew someone ... with a promiscuous lute and a promiscuous there.
At a square dance, hey, this chick was no dancer.

If only Frank had been in *Row, Row, Row* from the very beginning. With his penetrating insight into the lives of his subjects, he would have been able to tell us that the most important thing about the show is not the music, but the people. And that's exactly what the show is about. It's a story of a man who has spent his life trying to make it in the music business, and who has finally found a way to do it. It's a story of a man who has spent his life trying to make it in the music business, and who has finally found a way to do it.

One of my favourite music writers is, in my opinion, a Canadian: Gene Lees, the jazz critic and *Jazzwise* (Quint Night of Quint Stars) and a son of an Argentine-Cuban (John bono nonna). Lees is highly opinionated, as anybody who really digs music surely is. He was famous with Sinatra for reviewing *Old MacDonald*. Yes, that *Old MacDonald*, the *mammy* theme.

Old MacDonald had a farm
E-e-e-e-e
And on the farm he had a chick

[illegible]

an interview with Big about trains of the era, the windows thereof, and to ensure thereof, and the propensity of most beer to fill out the windows thereof. And, round about the time's thought that is really more detail on the North Dakota railroad system in the 1920s than I need to know, one of Miss Lee's most plausibly early has—Waiting for the Train to Come In—been crawling on its rear head.

We now have the first full-length biography of the singer, *Allen: The Life and Music of Max Fygy Lee*, by Peter Richardson. And, to say, the book does not move quickly.

Bypage 210, he's opening chapters like this: "Lee's new house in Los Angeles was perched high above the city, on Rindge Avenue, in Beverly Hills: 'a low slung house on top of a hill with an Oriental look and a view of seven mountain ranges,' she recalled. She bought it in 1954 for \$40,000."

"Is That All There Is?" as Miss Lee seriously remarked in another context. Well, no. Jerry Lieber and Mike Stoller, the writers of that piece of sub-basement Brecht, offer this insight: Lieber: "I loved her. I even loved her big ass!"

Actually, that's not an awful thought. The other female vocalists who merged from the big bands of the forties—Doris Day, Dinah

Short, Rosemary Clooney—well, as *Rollie* had to say, “girl singer” Peggy Lee was a woman singer, and not just because she was shackled into gowns that exaggerated that hourglass figure: in the fifties, the pose,

THE MUSICOLOGIST COMPARED
HER VOICE TO A STREETWALKER
YOU'D PASS BY, BUT IF YOU EVER
STOPPED, YOU'D NEVER LEAVE.

was for her. She got nearer to him than anybody else did, male or female, in her command of the standard repertoire, and she seemed reach farther than him (past the Broadway/Tin Pan Alley core, recording: *The new center and business music in America*).

Some years ago, I spent a couple of days interviewing Alan Lee for a BBC radio show about her songwriting that never got made, and, as the rumour of it, she recalled an observation made by the producer and musician Alec Wilder: he compared her voice to a secret valley you'd pass by, but, if you ever stopped, you'd never leave. She doesn't seem to much of an instrument as, say, Barbara Streisand, but, after 10 minutes of the latter's tell-tale strains emanating, you're grateful to get back to Peg. She's the Count Basie of singers. Let's be frank: And, when she'd chosen her material, she was in what she'd loved it.

ST COMPARED
STREETWALKER

NEVER LEAVE I saw the traces of that scar, mind, when I read that sentence, I can hear Peggy Lee's voice saying it, deeply rueful. As with Gene Lees and the railroad, recorded voice: Back in the 1930s, there was a big hit that's a children's story, but kind of something, more

I Don't Want To Play In Your Yard
I don't like you anymore
You'll be sorry when you see me
Shading down our cooler door ...

It was the favourite song of James Cagney's dad, which is why he sings it in *The Public Enemy*. There are only 16 bars of it, but Max Lee chose to do it on the 1955 album *See Shih*—the one with the Chinese love poems—and it's very rare!

You can / better down our new barrel
You can / climb our apple tree
I Don't Want To Play In Your Yard
If you won't be good to me
With a nervous accompaniment, the child



like quality is transformed into something very grown-up and rather unsexy. Peter Richmond's brood doesn't mention the song, so presumably it's not big deal to her. But, as the old adage has it, he doesn't seem able to communicate what he likes about the song he does love. There's an exasperated shrug through *The Idle Wife* (Love is the Hell that takes care of you) but never returns again. The constant

"On *Earl* Mr. especially, the difference between a wistful waltz and a waltz in which the piano asserts out and the high living it resembles to it is itself in waltzing, you can almost hear [arranger Billy] May shouting, 'Now the guitar! This chord is going to save it!'"

One day someone will do justice to Peggy Lee's story, if only because the it, after all, one of the great storytellers herself. There's a whole lifetime's experience in the 12 bars of her best ballads, and especially in what I think of as the cigarette songs, like *Black Coffee* or *Blues*, with the wedding ring on the dresser and a puffing nose.

Don't look for me
I'll get ahead
Remember, darling
Don't Samsie in bed.
A woman is only a woman, but a good clip
is a snake, said Kipling. But he never heard
a woman wonder *How Pretty Late*. ■

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Fiction

THESE		THESE	
THESE		THESE	
1	THE BIRTH HEAVEN by Anne McCrory	3 (1)	
2	THE ANGELS OF IRELAND by Edward M. Sullivan	4 (3)	
3	THE LITTLEHOUSE by P. D. James	7 (20)	
4	IN THE COMPANY OF THE COURTESAN by Sarah Dunant	9 (5)	
5	THE SEA by John Banville	9 (10)	
6	THE SPOOKMAN POLLER by Paul Auster	9 (1)	
7	A PERFECT NIGHT TO GO TO CHINA by David Gilmour	9 (10)	
8	BELL by Stephen King	9 (1)	
9	THE LAST DAYS by Michael Kimmel	10	
10	WILSON by William S. Burroughs		

on-fiction

1	HAIRY & ME by John Douglas	0:00
2	THE WEATHER MAKES by Ramsey	1:00
3	SEX WORK YOU NEVER KNEW WAS by Ramsey	2:00
4	THE JESUS GARDEN by Mr. Loner Ragland	0:00
5	THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY by David Suzuki	0:00
6	THE GREAT TRANSFORMATION by Kasper Antonsson	5:00
7	THE BEESDEE BOOK OF BEES by Science Museum	9:00
8	BOONY / DON'T SPEAK FRENCH by François Truffaut	80:00
9	THE DISCERNANCE by Steven D. Lundt and Stephen J. Doolittle	4:00:00
10	THE FORCE OF REASON by William F. Buckley	0:00



UNLIKE MOST SINGERS' Gigs in right: Rosamary Clooney, Dick Shave and Dick Cav. Paddy Lee was a woman singer

Richmond doesn't include the *Alice Walker* insight, and in hundreds of pages he doesn't produce anything as good himself. You'll get more, particularly in the early sections, from her own take on her life, written in 1989. With our benefit of a ghostwriter, Miss Peggy Lee has a goofy authoring voice, half dead and detached, half introspective and pseudo spiritual (she was very prominently New Age). In North Dakota, her mother died when she was a young child, and her mother and her

Singing, Bill Friedwald gets to his album of opportunistic R&B hit covers, Gatemouth Lee, and more.

"On Cal! Mr. especially, the difference between the wispy wispy soft rock as what the producers out and the high swing it modulates to is in itself interesting, you can almost hear [arranger Billy] May shouting, 'So we're gonna!' This chorale is going to swing!"

There's more sense of the music in that

FINALLY A BOOK ABOUT...EATING INSECTS

Dear Anything But Muppet (Johnson & Schuster) is a collection of readers' queries, and answers, from *Mae* 2022ist magazine. Ever wondered how let you'd have to be to become bulletproof (About 1,425 lb., apparently.) As for the title question: sure, everything from dragons to humans. One reader disclosed we're larvae feed in butter at "Iggle Iggle."



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The image displays four sample pages from the 2014-2015 Canadian History textbook. From left to right: a yellow endpaper with a QR code and the title 'How is the world's in the classroom?'; a teacher's guide page titled 'TEACHER'S GUIDE' with a small photo of a student; a chapter introduction page for 'Canadian History' featuring a red maple leaf logo and a collage of historical photos; and a Maclean's magazine cover titled 'HARPER'S ELEVEN' with portraits of political figures.

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ROGERS
Your World Right Now

A man in a dark military uniform with a white cap and a red flower on his lapel is playing a silver trumpet. He is standing in front of a blurred background of trees. A purple circular graphic with the word "music" in white is in the top left corner.

They're buying a stairway to heaven

For the most part, Roemer 217 directs visitors to cover versions of familiar songs. Foster covers traditional songs like Deep River and Shall We Gather at the River, show tunes like You'll Never Walk Alone, and classical music, too. She even arranges the occasional pop standard: the Roemer 217 website lists a recording of Wind Beneath My Wings by saying "When you can't find the words, this song from Roemer's expresses her heartfelt appreciation for a friend or loved one."

Rosen isn't the only person making music for the dying. Various palliative care websites offer music for that purpose. The Growth House org., which features "Growth House Radio," an online program of music for the dying, its slogan: "It's interlunacy with a microphone." And a Canadian musician named Steve Bell recently released a two-CD set called *Solace for Seasons of Suffering*, with Bell accompanying himself on his guitar.

While most of Rone's 207 CDs have been good so far, Rone acknowledges that she will face more challenges in making them as effectively. "How does one make a product for the dining culture that doesn't want to talk about or even acknowledge death?" The answer, it turns out, is the same as with any music: promoting the product through touring and lecturing. "I have extraordinarily high percentage sales," Rone says, "when I present seminars on 'music for life's journey' or get gone live with *Rone for 30* music."

Of course, soft, soothing music is good for other times in people's lives, besides their last moments. Rouse notes that Rouse 217 CDs are being used for other types of patients, like Alzheimer's sufferers and people undergoing massage therapy. But the emphasis that Rouse 217's primary purpose is to provide comfort to people at the end of their lives, and the intends to continue making music with that goal in mind. "My passion is for the dying," she says. ■

I'm back and I'm better than ever / I'm back and I'm getting this childhood / The back of this line The a Cowboy / And I got new saying wow boy / It's a brand new year, I got a brand new team / I am a Cowboy now, so more black and green / And to the hater that said I wouldn't get my way / The laughing is your face / Air He / That's funny - from the back, reassurance the whole section we have, www.dellavallone.com/index.cfm

[illegible]



DANIEL BARENBOIM and the young musicians of the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra in Ramallah in August 2005

The night they played Ramallah

A new DVD documents a pioneering performance by an Arab-Israeli orchestra

BY STEPHEN CERA - It may be the world's only orchestra where the music is an act of peace. The West-Eastern Divan Orchestra was the joint inspiration of Daniel Barenboim, 63, the renowned Argentine-born 21-year pianist and conductor, and Edward Said, the late Palestinian writer and Columbia University professor. Formed in 1999 in West Bank, Germany, it takes its name from a cycle of poetry by Goethe called "West-östlicher Divan." That collection, inspired by Persian verse forms, reflected the classical German writer's fascination with Middle Eastern culture. The music also plays on an Arabic translation of the word "divan," meaning "meeting place."

The orchestra consists of young musicians aged 18 to 25, half from Israel and half from Arab, Israeli and Palestinian territories, Jordan, Egypt, Syria and Lebanon. There are also five Spanish musicians, since the orchestra now makes its summer home in Seville, in Andalusia (one of the few places where, historically, Jews, Muslims and Christians have cohabited with mutual respect, though that was back in the Middle Ages). The season that knowledge of the "other" could help dissolve barriers to understanding was at the heart of the project from its inception. Now, thanks to the efforts of Barenboim and Said, the word of brotherhood in 2001 at age 67, Arab is playing the Berlioz *Tristram and Isolde* alongside Israeli.

Interweaving music, film, workshops and rehearsals, the young musicians not only meet to each other in the orchestra, sharing music, ideas, they eat and drink together. Remember that these individuals would normally never meet, or (in many cases) even be allowed into one another's countries.

The orchestra has already toured in its home and South America, but not yet in the

Middle East. The conductor's goal is for them to appear with home countries on all the programs. (Their first visit to an Arab country was to Rabat, Morocco, in 2003.) The real breakthrough performance came last summer in Ramallah, in the West Bank, and was due largely to the support of the Spanish government, which also provided diplomatic passports to all participants. No doubt the shadow of terrorism loomed in the back of their minds. It took courage for everyone, including Barenboim, even to make the journey.

A subject of some political controversy in Israel for his supposed "deviant" views and because to perform in Wagner in the Jewish state, Barenboim has been known throughout his life for stagingging musical achievement (as music director of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, artistic director of the Berlin State Opera and as one of the world's leading pianists) rather than his concerts' message. The balance may be shifting. He is committed to educating music education in the Palestinian territories and has performed in the West Bank since 1999.

One can barely imagine the logistical and political difficulties, but the performance results arrived by the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra are evident on its latest DVD, *The Ramallah Concert*, from Warner Classics. (The concert is also available on CD.) It

documents that pioneering performance in August 2005 in the Cultural Palace of Ramallah and reveals some of the behind-the-scenes planning that preceded it. The two-DVD set also includes an absorbing documentary by filmmaker Paul Senanayake that traces the orchestra's brief but historic history.

In purely musical terms, the concert provided collaboration and cohesion. The instrumentation was pushed, with a boy of Israeli Palestinian politics in the audience. The program included Mozart's *Sinfonia Concertante* for four winds and orchestra, in which Israeli and Arab musicians shared the spotlight in the quartet of solo roles, followed by Beethoven's mighty *Symphony No. 5*. The latter (a work of fabulous authenticity) benefits from the dark intensity of the four young soloists, who dwell rather than contribute with its chamber music like friends while colleagues in the orchestra provide a warm cushion of support. When the concert pairs across the orchestra, you can't tell who is Israeli and who is Palestinian.

The finally named and broadly conceived Barenboim performance films with power, as Barenboim draws fiery commitment and pushforward from young players. This may not be a performance to replace your favorite recording of the *Verni* or *Les Filles du Calvaire*, but it would nobly complement it. Their music, albeit the real-life of "National" from Elgar's *Anglo-Spanish*, offers a sort of musical revolution to the entire genre. **M**



PERFORMANCE OF THE WEEK LIVE ADS

They're in cinema, why not in live theatre? A London theatre last week debated what is claimed as the first live advert ever on stage. The ad, sponsored by the West London Tourism board, appeared before a performance of *Shogun* and *Don't Look Back* at the Old Vic. Similar these-minute live ads are planned for theatre performances in Dublin, New York City and Philadelphia, where as yet unannounced celebrities will appear.

PHOTOGRAPH BY GARY COLEMAN

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THE SUIT FIT: Today's 'repressed' styles—shorter sleeves, skintight pants—we call the Fab Four and look butt on the young

Beatlemania is back—on the rack

Tired of dot-com khakis and casual Fridays, a new generation of dandies discovers the suit

BY BARBARA KORTHOL • It may not have been the latest super hero (there's *Iron Man* in the works), but rapper Buck 64, aka a. Rich Terfry, was rightly proud of the new suit he was sporting at the *Just Jaws* awards in Halifax earlier this month. Never mind the best music video nomination; he told an interviewer, take a look at the threads! Arguably, Terfry's Hugo Boss was no competition for the under-starched black glaze of West Coast dandies at Hot Hot Heat, but, at 34, Terfry seemed tickled by the very notion of sartorial splendor. And he is not alone. After seasons of dot-com khakis and T-shirts, postured by the at-home dandy of *Arrested Development*, men—especially young men—across the country are taking a look at the threads. Arguably, Terfry's Hugo Boss was no competition for the under-starched black glaze of West Coast dandies at Hot Hot Heat, but, at 34, Terfry seemed tickled by the very notion of sartorial splendor. And he is not alone. After seasons of dot-com khakis and T-shirts, postured by the at-home dandy of *Arrested Development*, men—especially young men—across the country are taking a look at the threads.

Men's four-piece suits are back. In fact, the new style of suit is driving a small retail boom in the U.S. Last year, the suit and sports coat led a five-per-cent uptick in the US\$15 billion men's apparel market, according to NPD in New York. Fuelled by the youth market, sales of suits and sports coats/shirts grew more than 50 per cent from 2004 to 2005. In Canada, says Millard Ruff, 2004 men spent \$31 million on dress suits alone.

Fashion designers are rushing to capitalise on the trend. Aiming to create a new generation of boys, the American luxury label Hickey Freeman has just launched Hickey, a trendier—some might say, girlier—offshoot of its preppy menswear line.



WHAT THEY GOT FOR IT THE HUMAN SOUL

A Chinese man has attempted to exploit off his son on China's version of eBay. The unidentified man, who lives near Shanghai, attracted 50 bids for his son before the auction site, Taobao, cancelled the bidding at US\$44. "We had no specific policy on the selling of sons," a spokesman for Taobao said, but added the site wanted more proof that the seller would be able to deliver the goods, such as "written permission from a higher authority."

during Las Vegas's *the Hilton* and Scottish producer Frank Fenderson, who drew head-to-toe in skin-tight suits with narrow lapels and thin ties. At 30, Williamson has two new slunkies by Balmain and Martin. He says the look is fresh. "Clean and lean, we call it," says Layton puts in. The Beatles, circa 1965? "You got it," Layton says. "The Beatles are back. What goes around, comes around."

Harry Rosen, which boasts 36 stores and 35 per cent of the Canadian market in high-end menswear, reports an uptick in slim-fit suits among the young. "We started seeing this really come about last fall when men started in Montreal and Toronto," says Ed Litvin, a merchandise manager with the company. "All of a sudden young men, who used to come in for jeans, were wanting to come in for trousers—that was the suit that came out of England in the 1960s."

But the suit is back in a different way. "That's where we don't go," Harry Rosen says for young fellows used to be dark, Litvin says, with maybe a lavender stripe that can be pulled up in a bowtie shirt. Daringly, Hickey's downtown store in St. Harry Rosen stocks suits from Hugo Boss, Etro and Dolce & Gabbana for a "broader base," says Layton. Slightly edgier, slightly podgier Roy Greenstein included.

Let's get back to these ankle-duster pants for a moment. Young guys honestly used to buy pre-made flared? You can wear them with Chelsea boots, Litvin offers. No, Williamson says. "They are unusable."



THE ART OF SEDUCTION involves the appearance of slight slenderness. Think Marlene Dietrich, not Bridget Jones.

Why men marry bitchy women

What intrigues guys is winning a woman over. Want a proposal? Don't make it easy.

BY JULIA MCKENNA • "I know what men want. Men want to be really, really close to someone who will leave them alone." The American comedian Elaine Benes said this, but it sums up one of the basic premises of the latest book exploring for women how to get a man. *Sherry Argov's* the author of *Why Men Marry Bitches*. The title is provocative but it's not really true that Argov believes a woman has to be a bitch in the sense of a city brawler. She means a woman shouldn't be so nice. She shouldn't be obsequious. She mustn't cling and she must never be so anxious as to reveal the secret parts of her. Let her figure it out, Argov advises. Men want a dose of mystery; they want someone. The key to proposal, though, is to have them feel like they're in a bind.

Starting at the beginning, Argov claims that what intrigues men most is winning a woman over. Don't make it easy. She sees the example of "Mandy," who on her marriage trip to "Academy" the getting-to-know-each-other process by slaving over a home-cooked five-star meal that started with expensive fish oils. "That's really spoiled that her cooking wasn't very good." "What the devil?" says Argov, "to make the secret so much." And so on. The boyfriend's tactic, "after five or six, I know I'm getting laid. But if she throws me a sandwich or a sloppy joe, that reveals all there's something to prove. When I'm not quite sure how much she likes me, that's when the challenge is on."

Argov is reminding how you dream part of the challenge, too. Two things to remember: "When a man sees you wearing revealing clothes, he'll usually assume you don't have anything else going for you," writes Argov. One man tells the story of his date

showing up in a cropped T-shirt, tons of cleavage, with large cleavage on the chest. "Not everything is flat in Kansas."

"Once he makes you to one dimension," writes Argov, "he'll keep you there. He'll never take you seriously if you are too easy to catch him, you will be guaranteed incredibly less control but you won't get the real thing and the non-rack cooking act." Scored points about clothes, says Argov is that "when he sees you secretly dressed, he is not reminded of how good you look naked. He immediately thinks of all the other men you're slept with." Which is why the reverse that feminist about liberation and control are popular, she says. A guy interprets the get-out date look as "I'm not capable for you. You'll have to work a little to get it."

The art of seduction, she says, involves the appearance of slight slenderness. Avoid behaving in ways that allow him to predict your whereabouts, and on the flip side don't make it seem like he's expected to check in. "Men are far more certain when they feel like they are stealing your time away from something else you could be doing," Argov says about making beauty hunter questions his. "What did you go when you left work?" and "Where cell and when you were out. Why aren't you answering?" The second you start into rejecting a call, that's when he'll



MOST IMPROVED LISA MINNELLI

After four failed marriages, most recently to David Geffen, she's finally given up on sex and marriage. "I'm sick of sex," she yelled last week. "I don't see a man's self I care about kindness and integrity." Instead of wedding bells, Minnelli is concentrating on personal friendship and a revival of her career. She's a friend movie with *Richard Gere*, who plays a sexually explicit woman. Minnelli may have been able to give *Reese* more profits.

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Caffeinated lip balm, Morrissey, Belgian cinema and surf shorts in our compendium of things that make life worth living



NOT SO MERRY MARQUETTES

Penguin Classics tapped comic gems, including Art Spiegelman, Chris Ware and Charles Brown, for new edition classic series. The chapbook in the spotlight is set in Belgium, in a comic by Chris Ware, who did the cover for *The Portable Cemetery* (Penguin).

man who goes 10 days before making that his mother, whom he loves and, has passed away on her bed. It's bound to be riveting and magnificent. (penguin.com)

THE MOST SERENE MUSIC PLAYER

The Buddha Machine may look like a cheap hand-held radio, but the colorful device, which has a small chip inside, plays an album's worth of ambient music loops by the artist T.M.G. It costs less than a CD. And, if it needs an endorsement, narrator has a Kris Kins bought right.



BELGIUM'S BEST BABY-SELLING STORY

Le Petit (The Child) took the top prize at last year's Cannes Film Festival, the second Palme d'Or (cleaned by Belgium's director, the *Delicatessen* franchise). It's the story of a child who is sold to his newborn boy into adoption, to the horror of the child's teenage mother. Shot with unobtrusive realism, this portrait of fragile lives in an industrial wasteland sounds like a horror. But it's one heavily dose into hell.

INKING THE CLASSICS

Readers have always been partial to the black leather wasteland, but now handymen have a version of their own. *Sporty's* makes an adjustable 'Victrola' wasteland, with a powerful magnetic surface that holds rings, notes, books and notes. (sportys.com/shop)

STICKY WRIST

Readers have always been partial to the black leather wasteland, but now handymen have a version of their own. *Sporty's* makes an adjustable 'Victrola' wasteland, with a powerful magnetic surface that holds rings, notes, books and notes. (sportys.com/shop)

TURN AND CHANGE THE VASE

The David Brown set features four iconic photos of the actor in his Ziggie era, taken by glam rock photographer Mick Rock (which can be seen by visiting the artist's website). (davidbrown.com)

BABY TALK

Always born a fan of Rebecca Bolder's personal journalism? Well, it doesn't get more personal than her baby blog, *First Found Dictator* (mymomanddictator.blogspot.com), in which she admits to constantly wanting to see her daughter's and other babies' bottoms. She also writes photos of her 100,000 a pair of jeans for said dictator. Plus, there's a helpful list of mommy-run, child-relevant businesses.



GO BEYOND THE SCREAM

Originals of Edward Munch's most famous work are no longer available to go for sale with all his other existential paintings. A recent retrospective (2000-2004) is at the MoMA in New York and May 8.

TOY CRIMINALS

Grand Theft Auto III Robert Red Set is a collection of toy pumps, box and goomies inspired by characters from the bestselling video game. Put them on your desk to remind you of what you'd rather be doing: smoking virtual cigs, snatching virtual cops, and having virtual sex. (redsettoy.com)

MORRISSEY HAS SEX, STILL MOODY

Morrissey may be boycotting *Cinderella* over the real heart, but we'll be the bigger person and admit that his new CD, *Reverend & the Dreamers*, is better than his last. And at least two songs, *Dear God Please Help Me* and *The More I Kill Me*, are hypnotic—and address the end of his celibacy. As an added bonus, Elton John's extraordinary *Rock & Roll* comes out the strong arrangement on *Dear God*.

A GENERATION OF NOISEMAKERS

Twenty-somethings don't all ways get the best rap—but the 15-part CBC series, *Mo'Nasty* (on Sundays), is out to prove there's some really good rap in the bunch. It's a fun, heavy, heart-warming stuff.

THE ANTISPEED

Wileysque's original tracks—famed for their father-son matching sets—have been *AntiSpeed* (anti-speed.com) ever since the '70s. The company has recently expanded, opening boutique worldwide. Choose from the classic, *Antispeed* (anti-speed.com) or the futuristic, *AntiSpeed* (anti-speed.com).

LIP SMACK

Developed by a Los Angeles police officer, *Spacemate*—the world's first—collimated lip balm—comes in a variety of flavors. (spacemate.com)

PETER WEBSTER GLENDINNING

1945-2006

He was compassionate and intelligent, and had a 'meteoric' career. He also liked to drink.

Peter Webster Glendinning was born on May 18, 1945, in Balcarres, Sask., the only child of parents) A. (Glen), a rural Royal Bank manager who was transferred from town to town, and Alice, a school teacher. C.P.F. organizer and theorist Peter finished high school in Rosetown, and went to the University of Saskatchewan in Regina. He completed a bachelor's in 1966, and a law degree in 1970. Peter, who was tall and blond and blue-eyed, was passionate of his law class. He liked to play the piano and listen to classical music. He also liked to drink. His classmates and the persuasive teacher taught him to combine with "enthusiasm," according to his friend, Ross Mosley, a judge in Regina. Peter's drink of choice was vodka. He also smoked.

Ross describes Peter's early career as "meteoric." He started with a Saskatoon law firm that included Roy Rasmussen, who would later become NDP premier of Saskatchewan. In 1971, Peter followed Roy to Regina, where he practiced law and worked at high-level jobs with provincial agencies. His second wife, Janet Rasmussen, a civil servant, met him there in 1977 when he was a special adviser to Rasmussen, and she was in business matters. Rasmussen said, "There was no insurance," Janet says. "Then I ran into him as a law. He had a great sense of humor. He was engaging."

His friend Ross says, "Those early days in government were exciting, even embarrassing ones." Peter's start as a young civil servant as a senior level lawyer he was "given the opportunity to do new ideas, get them accepted, and see them implemented in a very short time." He travelled a lot, worked hard and "poured blood," Ross says.

Peter and Janet were married in 1980. It was the second marriage for both and Janet had a five-year-old son, Jamie, by her first husband. On May 8, 1982, Peter's only child, Megan Elizabeth, was born. About a year later, when Janet told Peter's "disease of alcoholism" took over his life. He left the government, returned to law and left that too. "We both had a rough seven years," Janet remembers. Peter drank in secret. "Hey, I was a man with two loads on my plate," she says. "I was raising them and also supporting the family."

In 1989, Janet delivered an ultimatum: "You've got to get help or else." Peter joined Alcoholics Anonymous and accepted drink-

ing. Janet says, "It was like a miracle." He went to three meetings a week. He went back to law. He went to Saskatchewan as a former government. "I don't know when the gay side slips," says his friend Brian Schatz, who was there at the time. "He was at work before anybody and after everyone else." He was compassionate and extremely intelligent, Janet adds. "He related well with the movers and shakers and with the common folk who did the work."

Peter loved to enter contests. "It was the fun part about him," Janet says. His efforts to fill out grocery store ballot forms won him two cars, a Chrysler convertible and a Nissan, trips to Europe, Disney World and the Jaws Awards in Toronto, and another \$30,000 worth of different prizes and computers.

In 1995, Janet and Peter built a home with an ocean view in Arbutus Ridge near Victoria, which they intended to live in when they retired. Peter went to work for the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority, headed by his friend Dave Jones. "One of Peter's jobs was overseeing the liquor law writing for bars," Dave says. But Peter did not drink. He had a dry wit, Dave says, and he could take ribbing too. "I used to talk him about his Royal LePage comb-over, but on a blood-guy in a tie he'd look quite a bit."

Janet retired in 2000 and moved to the 8-C house Peter, who still smoked, had heart trouble and underwent quadruple bypass surgery. He decided to retire and join Janet. Five months later, on March 27, 2001, Janet and Peter's daughter, Megan, an expert snowboarder, died after a fall in Lake Tahoe, Nev. A few months after that, Peter started to drink again.

Peter went back and forth between sobriety and drinking. Janet asked him to move out of the Arbutus Ridge house. Two years ago, he got an apartment in Nanaimo, near the Edgewood addiction treatment facility. On Jan. 8, Janet left by herself on a trip to Japan, Thailand and Australia. She did not return until March 21.

On Feb. 15, about 10:30 a.m., a friend found Peter, who was going into a detox centre that day, in his apartment in Nanaimo. He was dead. Next month, he will be interred beside Megan at the Royal Oak Memorial Park in Victoria. "Peter's situation was like a slow death," Janet says. Still, the write-up in his obituary notice, published on April 1, "Gone too soon." He was 60. BY BARBARA RICHMOND



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